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Argentina recalls Iran envoys over anti-Jewish bombings

News agencies

TEHERAN — The Argentine Foreign Ministry said Friday it had reduced diplomatic relations with Iran "to the minimum" due to "increasing certainties" of Iranian involvement in two deadly bombing attacks on Jewish targets in Argentina.

Foreign Minister Guido Di Tella said that the Argentine government would reduce its already limited diplomatic mission in Teheran to a single envoy after having ordered the Iranian government to do the same in Buenos Aires.

Iran denies it was involved in the attacks. The announcement came a day after Iran informed Argentina it was applying trade sanctions in retaliation for Buenos Aires's insistence on keeping it at the heart

of its probe into the bombing of the AMIA center, which also wounded 200 people. Teheran has repeatedly denied involvement. The news also came hours after the police anti-terrorist squad arrested an unidentified Iranian national in Buenos Aires in connection with the investigation.

President Carlos Menem's government has been under pressure at home and abroad, particularly in

Israel and the U.S., to find the culprits in the two attacks. Both countries withdrew their ambassadors after the AMIA bombing, and diplomatic links have since been limited to business attaches. Argentina now has two envoys in Teheran, while three or four Iranian diplomats staff their mission in Buenos Aires.

Di Tella said the deteriorating relations were unfortunate in light of the "phenomenon of liberalization" under Iran's new moderate government. But he described as "gratuitous" Iran's sanctions that "removed Argentina from its list of suppliers."



Police evacuate worshippers from the Western Wall on Friday as Palestinians shower them with stones. (Brian Henderson)

At least 5 hurt in territories clashes

By STEVE RODAN and MOHAMMED NAJIB

Palestinians continued their attacks on IDF troops over the weekend in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. In an assessment that differed sharply from the official position of the Palestinian Authority that 10 Palestinians were killed during the Nakba march on Thursday, the Palestinian Human Rights Monitoring Group, based on field reports, put the number at five. It also accused the IDF of shooting randomly.

In Hebron, Dr. Yusef Sharawi, director of Alia Hospital, said that on Thursday and Friday, 63 wounded were treated at the facility. Most of the wounds were caused by rubber bullets. All but three have left the hospital. In the clashes on Friday, an Israeli photographer for Ma'ariv was wounded by a rubber bullet and was taken to Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem for treatment. Clashes were also reported in Gaza. The PHRMG identified Thursday's fatalities as Zamel Wahidi, 45, and Mohammed Farah Gneid, 22, both from the Jabaliya refugee camp; Samir Fayyad, 35, of Khan Yunis; Ashraf Arran, 22, of Rafah; and Ismail Mohammed Shehadeh, 24, of the Kalandia refugee

camp. The monitoring group accused the IDF of shooting randomly at Palestinian demonstrators during Thursday's Nakba marches. The group said most of the deaths, which were mainly in the Gaza Strip, were caused by live ammunition, including dum-dum bullets. The Fatah movement yesterday declared a three-day mourning of Shehadeh's death. Fatah released a statement that it will continue the path of Shehadeh, an activist in the movement — until the Palestinian state is established with Jerusalem as its capital. Meanwhile, the PA continued its arrest of Palestinian journalists. Israel TV's Channel 1 reporter Fayez Omar, who works for the Arabic news, was arrested

the day after he broadcast a report of Christian-Muslim tensions in Bethlehem. Omar said the tensions stemmed from the placing by some Christians of large illuminated crosses on their rooftops. Omar was taken for questioning by the PA General Intelligence. This, as the PHRMG issued a release criticizing Omar's report, saying "there is no tension between Christians and Muslims and no Christian persecution in PA territories." On Friday, the PA released Abbas Momani, a free-lance television cameraman who obtained a videotape of Hamas fugitive Adel Awadallah that was broadcast last month.

See CLASHES, Page 2

PM, Ross in effort to finalize pullback

By JAY BUSHINSKY, MARILYN HENRY, and HILLEL KUTTLER

NEW YORK — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is scheduled to meet in Washington today with State Department envoy Dennis Ross in an effort to wrap up new US-Israeli understandings on the IDF's impending pullback in the West Bank.

Netanyahu said on two different occasions Friday that the possibility of an agreement came up in the past 48 hours and it is being pursued. Following a luncheon meeting with UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan, Netanyahu said: "We're discussing some ideas that were raised in the course of the last 48 hours," referring to his talks at the US State Department.

"I may see some progress, and I may, in any case, have to take whatever we arrive at, if we arrive at anything, to the Israeli cabinet," he said. "They are the only ones who can make any decision." In a meeting later with reporters and editors of The New York Times, he said: "We've picked up

an interesting thread in the last 48 hours, an interesting idea, and there are teams that are working on it right now. If it turns out to be something that is realistic, I'll take it to the cabinet." On Thursday evening, Netanyahu told the American Jewish Committee that he "is prepared to make compromises and probably will make compromises." At no point did he specify what ideas were being considered by

meeting. "We are in the midst of substantive discussions," a source said, but denied that the prime minister has made "any promises," past or present. The source described Netanyahu as a man who "is very careful about making binding commitments" and contended that he has not made any to US President Bill Clinton, Albright or any other administration officials. Albright will report to Clinton on the state of the talks when she joins him in Birmingham, England, tonight, the State Department said. State Department spokesman James Rubin told reporters that the US still believes "there is sufficient reason for serious work to continue." Rubin also stated that Albright has spoken with both Netanyahu and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat about the riots in the territories, telling Arafat that "restraint must be exercised both in terms of rhetoric and actions."

See PULLBACK, Page 2

Suharto moves to restore grip on power as 500 rioters, looters die

By ANDREW MARSHALL

JAKARTA (Reuters) — Almost 500 people died in the past week's rioting in Indonesia, the country's military said yesterday. "As of 7 p.m. tonight, the death toll was 499, including those burned to death and those who tried to save themselves by jumping from burning buildings," military spokesman Brigadier General Wahab Mokodongan told a news conference. President Suharto, meanwhile, dispelled rumors he would quit and moved to restore his grip on power, promising to immediately reshuffle his cabinet.

At the same time, thousands of shaken and exhausted foreigners thronged Jakarta's international airport yesterday, fleeing for fear they would be the next targets of mobs on the rampage through the capital. The departures hall at Sukarno-Hatta Airport was mobbed with ethnic Chinese whose homes and businesses were looted and torched in four days of violence. Two days of relative calm since the rioting peaked on Thursday night have done nothing to soothe expatriate nerves. The foreigners said they feared the worst was yet to come. "We all live in big glitzy houses and the mobs were getting closer every day," said a British woman

bound for Singapore with her husband. "They have burned half of the city already and sooner or later they are going to go for the places the rich live in." Many expatriates were flying out on special charter flights to Singapore or Kuala Lumpur and had no idea where they would go from there. Most hoped to return to Indonesia if order was restored. The US and Canada airlifted out some 800 of their nationals, mostly women, children and the elderly, in special flights before dawn yesterday. Japanese airlines laid on a dozen extra flights for those of an estimated 20,000 Japanese in Indonesia wanting to get out.

World mourns passing of Frank Sinatra, 82

By KARLYN BARKER

LOS ANGELES (The Washington Post) — Frank Sinatra, who died Thursday night, was hailed Friday as a versatile, combative crooner whose unique sound and intimate style made him this century's acknowledged master of popular song during a career that spanned nearly 60 years. Sinatra died in a Los Angeles hospital after a heart attack. He was 82. Sinatra won nine Grammys, recorded more than 2,000 songs, and made 240 albums. He performed an impressive repertory of

20th-century popular vocal music, often choosing tunes and lyrics that expressed his emotional ups and downs. He also made more than 50 films, including *From Here to Eternity*, for which he won the Academy Award for best supporting actor in 1953 and *The Man With the Golden Arm*, for which he received an Oscar nomination. Famous for his intensely personal interpretation of lyrics, he sang songs — aching, bluesy love ballads and cocky, swinging renditions of old standards — with peerless phrasing and intimacy. Sinatra first came to musical prominence in the early 1940s as a slender, sunken-cheeked singing idol, whose screaming fans erupted in a hysteria matched later by only Elvis Presley and the Beatles. After a slump in popularity, the scrappy entertainer made a stunning professional comeback in the mid-1950s, recording some of his best, top-selling albums and winning his



Frank Sinatra, 1915-1998 (AP)

Academy Award. After dominating the music business, movies, and Las Vegas, he quit performing briefly in 1971; then reemerged in 1973 to enjoy continued concert and recording success as "Ol' Blue Eyes." He last performed in public in February 1995 at his annual charity

golf tournament in Palm Springs, Calif., but seldom left his Beverly Hills home after suffering a heart attack in January 1997. He was almost as well known for his temper and run-ins with the media. He also was generous and kind to friends and strangers, every one from US presidents and other leading entertainers to children he never met but whose hospital bills he frequently paid. But it was as a singer that the once skinny, bow-tied kid from Hoboken, N.J. gained his lasting, worldwide renown. As news of Sinatra's death spread across the country and around the world, tributes to the singer once known simply as "The Voice" poured in. "I think every American would have to smile and say he really did do it his way," US President Bill Clinton said from Birmingham, England, where he is attending the G8 summit. "I was an enormous admirer of his."

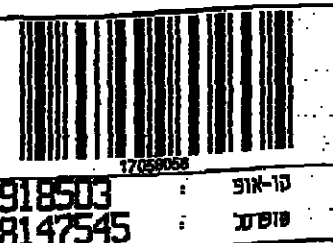
Singer Barbra Streisand said Friday that Sinatra "was the epitome of what singing is all about, beautiful sound, smooth as silk, effortless, impeccable phrasing, stylish, intelligent and full of heart." He married four times, and his former wives included actresses Ava Gardner and Mia Farrow. Trying to explain Sinatra's influence, blues singer Joe Williams said in a recent magazine interview that "Frank's personal interpretation of a lyric [is] like people who read poetry, or an actor in a role. With Frank, each song is a vignette for the story, and he tells it like nobody else." Sinatra was a friend of Israel, opening a building in his name at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem 20 years ago and a children's home in Nazareth 40 years ago. "Sinatra loved Israel," former Jerusalem mayor Teddy Kollek said. "He visited a number of times, and sang in concerts, sometimes at his own expense."

April CPI up 1.4%

By DAVID HARRIS

The consumer price index (CPI) rose 1.4 percent to 153.3 points in April, the Central Bureau of Statistics announced on Friday. Inflation is likely to end the year at 4%-5%, but bureau experts said the trend shows the CPI slowing to an annual pace of 3.5%-4%. At the current pace, inflation will be any rate end the year far lower than the government had anticipated when it set the annual target at 7%-10%. In the first four months of the year, the CPI rose 1.4%, with a 5% increase over the last 12 months. The government's stated aim and its instruction to the Bank of Israel is that inflation be similar to that of industrialized nations by the year 2001. Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman has indicated that he does not adhere to targets once they have been surpassed. As expected, the appreciation of the dollar against the shekel largely contributed to the monthly jump in prices, particularly in housing,

vehicle rentals and trips abroad. These are items whose prices are usually fixed in dollars. There were increases in all the CPI's component indices except household furnishings (which dropped 0.5%). The largest factors in the rise in the CPI were the increases in housing and clothing and footwear prices, both adding 0.4% to inflation. The housing index rose 1.7%. Within this, purchases became 1.6% more expensive and rentals rose by 2.9%. Clothing and footwear rose in price by a combined 9% — clothing (+10%) and footwear (+3.8%). Along with the 4.4% increase in the cost of fruits and vegetables, this index rose because of seasonal factors, including the Pesach holiday, according to the bureau. Within the transport and communication index (which increased by 0.8%), overseas journeys rose in price by 4% and domestic car rentals by 29.1%.



NEWS

in brief

Swiss president arrives today

Swiss President Flavio Cotti will arrive in Israel today for a two-day visit that includes meetings with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon, and President Ezer Weizman.

Cotti will also visit Hebron and Ramallah, meet with Labor Party MK Yossi Beilin, and address the Israel Council on Foreign Relations. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

Swedish chief visits

Sweden's chief of general staff, Gen. Wiktorin Eric Axel, is to be received in Tel Aviv this morning as he begins a three-day visit with the IDF. Axel is to be received by an honor guard at the IDF headquarters at Camp Rabin.

His visit comes on the heels of a visit to the IDF of the Japanese and German chiefs of staff. *Ariel O'Sullivan*

Menem signs Sakic's extradition

An order to extradite a former World War II concentration camp commander to stand trial for war crimes in Croatia was signed Friday by Argentine President Carlos Menem.

Croatia wants to try Dinko Sakic for crimes he allegedly committed while he was commandant of the Jasenovac concentration camp, where thousands of Serbians, Jews and Gypsies perished. Estimates of the number of people who died there range from tens of thousands to more than 500,000 people, including Croats who did not support the pro-Nazi Croat regime.

Sakic, 76, a resident of Argentina since 1947, has been in custody since a judge approved his extradition May 4. *AP*

Fire at Jerusalem shopping center

A car parked in the lot at Jerusalem's Center-1 shopping center went up in flames yesterday, filling the underground lot with smoke but causing no injuries or serious damage. Police said an electrical short in the car caused the fire. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

Soccer referee hurt in attack by players and fans

Soccer referee Asher Cohen was rushed to Carmel Hospital in Haifa yesterday after he was attacked by players and spectators at a Fifth Division match between Maccabi Daliat al-Carmel and Hapoel Tamra. The trouble erupted in the 89th minute, when home team Daliat al-Carmel scored, making it 2-1 and effectively ending Tamra's promotion hopes.

Cohen told Channel 1 that a Tamra player cursed him just as he was about to restart the game, drawing a mandatory red card. This led the player to begin punching Cohen and within seconds the situation turned into a free-for-all. "We were kicked like soccer balls," said Cohen, whose injuries were described as "light to moderate." *Ori Lewis*

PM to attend NY Salute to Israel Parade

For the first time since Menachem Begin did so 20 years ago, an Israeli prime minister will be the honorary marshal of New York's Salute to Israel Parade. Benjamin Netanyahu is scheduled to make a brief appearance today at the 34th annual march down Fifth Avenue.

Some 75,000 people - mostly students - will participate in the parade, and sponsors expect hundreds of thousands of spectators along the route of the parade, the traditional celebration of New York's Jewish community. *Marilyn Henry*

British WIZO deeply mourns and is saddened and shocked by the untimely passing of

YITZHAK MODA'I

husband of our beloved President,
Michal Moda'i.

We send heartfelt condolences
to her and the family.

The Chairman,
Executive and Staff of British WIZO



To Michal, our beloved president, Gali, Goaz,
and all the family
We mourn with you the death of

YITZHAK MODA'I

a social, economic, and political leader
a man of action and vision who contributed tremendously to
the Israeli economy and society
and a friend and companion to WIZO

The WIZO family in Israel and the world.

The Caesarea Foundation
The Caesarea Edmond Benjamin de Rothschild
Development Corporation Ltd.

mourn the untimely death of board of directors member

Mr. YITZHAK MODA'I

and extend our sincere condolences to the bereaved family

Baron Benjamin de Rothschild
Baroness Nadine de Rothschild
The board of directors members, management and employees

Hussein: PM's peace statements puzzling

AMMAN (Reuters) - King Hussein of Jordan yesterday criticized Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's "contradictory" attitudes to peace, and said Israel was slipping into a fortress mentality.

The king, who is said to have grown increasingly frustrated with Netanyahu, said he could not understand what relations the Israeli leader wanted with his Arab neighbors.

Speaking after talks with Swiss President Flavio Cotti, the monarch also said he was disturbed by the current Arab-Israeli stalemate and said the two men discussed "the critical moment through which the region passes."

Cotti said the king had offered a "realistic, and in the short term, pessimistic view" of developments.

King Hussein, who later met Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat, said Netanyahu was sending signals which were both flawed and confused.

"I have been rather puzzled recently... by contradictory statements by the Israeli prime minister. In one interview he was suggesting that peace should be between governments and not people," the monarch said.

"I have never heard of any peace that is meaningful that is not between people as well."

"Yet he contradicts himself in a

later statement by saying that peace between governments is just pieces of paper that have no meaning, and that security is an essential part," Hussein added.

He was apparently referring to comments by Netanyahu defending his reluctance to make further withdrawals from the West Bank, saying it exposed Israel to security risks which could not be overlooked for the sake of a peace accord.

"I believe that without peace, without the overwhelming majority of people who believe in peace defending it, working for it, believing in it, security can never really be a reality in our lives," the king said.

The king's comments, although couched in his customary courteous tones, reflected frustration at Netanyahu's policies which the monarch has warned could trigger violence beyond Israel and the Palestinians.

Jordan, with its large population of Palestinians, would be especially vulnerable to regional unrest.

"We'll wait and see how things develop but I hope we'll move away from Israel being moved into a fortress and Israelis being forced to live in a fortress mentality [and move] towards opening up to the area," he said.

In a thinly-veiled criticism of Israel's rejection so far of US

compromise proposals, Hussein said Washington should not be regarded simply as a messenger.

"It has the right to offer ideas and thoughts, particularly when they are consistent with previous agreements."

"Our Palestinian brethren have accepted these ideas and thoughts fully. There is a problem now with the Israeli government apparently," he said.

The king said Thursday's violence in Gaza was "regrettable" but reflected despair in the impasse between Israel and the Palestinians.

The Prime Minister's Office would not respond to Hussein's statements.



UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan greets Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu at UN headquarters on Friday. *(AP)*

PULLBACK

Continued from Page 1

"We don't think that violence should be used as a lever to promote peace," he said.

But by the same token, the failure to achieve a diplomatic breakthrough in the talks "is a contributing cause to the disillusionment that has made this violence so widespread," he added.

Right-wing critics of his stance in the prolonged dealings with the US on the redeployment, among them National Infrastructure Minister Ariel

Sharon, have charged that he offered to exceed the parameters set by the cabinet.

They maintain that Netanyahu gave his private consent to evacuate between 11% and 13% of the area in question, instead of the maximum of 9 percent approved by the cabinet.

The sources shrugged off reports that Netanyahu would be willing to put four percent of the territory "in escrow" for a subsequent withdrawal to be pegged to Palestinian Authority's compliance with its standing commitments. Netanyahu reacted bitterly to

the violence that erupted last week, charging that the Palestinians were not "protesting percentages" of territory his government is willing to relinquish "but the establishment of Israel as a Jewish state 50 years ago."

After emerging from a two-hour session with Annan, during which Israel's position was made known, Netanyahu told the press that the prime minister said the violence had been orchestrated by the Palestinian Authority.

In addition to meeting with Rumsfeld, Netanyahu is to address AIPAC's annual conference before returning to Israel.

G-8 expresses concern over Mideast stalemate

BIRMINGHAM, England (Reuters) - World powers expressed deep concern at the stalemate in the Middle East peace process, saying continued deadlock could have serious consequences throughout the region.

In a thinly veiled rebuke of Israel for rejecting US proposals on redeployment, the Group of Eight leading nations called the American plan constructive and realistic.

Washington insists that Israel must make a second troop withdrawal from 13 percent of the West Bank as a prelude to final peace negotiations with the Palestinians.

The Palestinians have agreed to the US blueprint in principle - a stance welcomed by the G-8.

The Group of Eight - the US, Germany, Japan, Britain, France, Italy, Canada and Russia - said it remained determined to work with all the parties for a comprehensive peace.

"A resumption of Israeli-Palestinian negotiations would build confidence in the region and help to restore momentum to the peace process as a whole," the G8 said in a statement after a working dinner on Friday, the first day of

their annual summit.

"A continuing blockade, on the other hand, could have grave consequences for security throughout the region," it added.

Earlier, US President Bill Clinton blamed Thursday's violence in the territories on Palestinian frustration at political deadlock and said it was "time to move" on peace efforts.

"There's a lot of frustration there," Clinton told reporters, commenting on clashes in the territories on Thursday. "Delay is not the friend of the peace process. It's time to move."

"I'm encouraged that Secretary Albright and Prime Minister Netanyahu are still working and we need, I think all of us, to try to come to terms with the difficult issues that would at least get the parties into final-status talks," Clinton said before meeting French President Jacques Chirac ahead of the G-8 summit.

"We have been more than a year now without any substantial progress and I think that the larger message here, apart from the tragedies, is that delay is not the friend of the peace process. It's time to move," he added.

CLASHES

Continued from Page 1

Human rights groups assert that Momeni was tortured during his two weeks in PA detention.

In Jerusalem, a small group of Palestinian teenagers threw stones at border policemen on Salah el-Din Street. Police spokesman Shmuel Ben-Ruby said three policemen were lightly wounded and a number of parked cars were damaged by the stones. Eighteen Palestinians were detained for questioning.

Palestinians threw rocks at worshippers at the Western Wall on Friday. Police moved in quickly to evacuate scores of Jews.

Police spokesman Shmuel Ben-Ruby said no one was hurt when the rocks rained down from the Temple Mount and the violence subsided within minutes.

In the east Jerusalem neighborhood of Ras al-Amud, Palestinians threw rocks and bottles Friday night at the building housing settlers in the neighborhood.

Police said there were no injuries, but that two cars were damaged.

David Rudge adds: The central Nakba commemoration by Israeli Arabs in the Galilee on Friday passed quietly, in sharp contrast to the violent demonstrations in Gaza and the West Bank the previous day.

Thousands of people took part in a march from Nazareth to the former Arab village of Tsafori, where a rally was held to mark the "catastrophe" that befell the Palestinians with the founding of Israel in 1948.

"Everything went as we had planned. It was very organized and we conveyed our protest and our positions in a democratic, cultural, and legitimate way," said Abed Inbitawi, spokesman for the Israeli Arab leadership's monitoring committee, which organized the event.

"More than 8,000 people participated in the event, which we considered to be a very good turnout in light of the bad weather at the time," said Inbitawi.

Marchers held aloft Palestinian flags alongside black flags of mourning to commemorate the Nakba. A large force of police stood by, but there were no disturbances.

On the rocky road with the PM

When one thing goes wrong, everything else seems to go down hill.

It started Friday morning when the bleary-eyed journalists accompanying Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who had been told to be ready for an early morning

REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK

BY JAY KUSHNIR

takeoff from Washington Airport, were told that his IAF Boeing 707's battery had conked out.

The prime minister was grounded and arrangements were being made for him to take a commercial flight, probably the Washington-New York shuttle.

Smiles returned to the news-worn faces when an aide said the Pentagon was having a helicopter fly a battery from Andrews Air Force Base to the lonely spot on the runway where the Israeli equivalent of Air Force One was parked.

By then, a colleague rushed in carrying an expensive tome on US foreign policy documents that Uri Dan had left behind in a bookstore. Dan, however, had vanished in search of the historical resource.

Ma'ariv's Raviv Drucker had disappeared without leaving word as to his whereabouts and the Israeli and US security agents made it obvious that the motorcade - our bus trailed as vehicle No. 9 - could not wait for him.

Off we went, only to stop in front of the old post office building on Pennsylvania Avenue. The Washington police, as is their

wont, had blocked off the thoroughfare to all traffic (without any objections from ever-patient local drivers).

Why? Because the prime minister and his intrepid wife, Sara, had decided to go off for some ice cream. That prompted a rush of newsmen who must be near the Netanyahu at all times, especially when they are having ice cream.

By the time they came back, with paper cups brimming with the icy delight, Drucker had caught up with the motorcade, thanks to a skilled taxi driver and his springy step. He's a former basketball player - professional, too.

Meanwhile, Dan had returned and retrieved his elegantly bound volume.

ARRIVALS

For the 1998 Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors of Tel Aviv University To Receive Honorary Degrees:

Randa, Austria: Prof. Guido Calabresi; Prof. Howard E. Gardner, Prof. David Weiss Halivni, Mr. Melvin S. Tanb, Mr. Shalom Yoran, U.S.A.; Mrs. Paulina Mizrahi de Deutsch, Argentina.

Members and Guests:

Argentina - Prof. & Mrs. Choud, Dr. Harry & Mrs. Fajon, Carlos & Judith Janger, Felipe & Elena Gutierrez, Mauricio & Beatriz Zapf.

Australia - Mrs. Eppstein, Mr. & Mrs. Inch, Nathan & Heda Jacobson, Adela Justin, Vera Roscoe, Gerty Rothchild, Alex & Bronka Shwartzman.

Austria - Prof. Dr. Alfred Ebenbauer, Alexander Gerner, Prof. Dr. Michael Hagemberger, Georg & Edith Kaiser, Christ Langsdorfer, Susanne Randa.

Brazil - Luiz & Regina Chor, Dr. Pedro & Mrs. Gila.

Canada - Myer Blek, Arnold & Sue Carol Isaacson, Hon. Donald & Barbara Seal.

China - Prof. Xu Xin & Kong Defang.

France - Dr. Jean & Marjorie Choukroun, Suzanne - Josef Buchmann & Baruch Kalic, Robert & Nicole Faktor, Dr. Marek Fischel, Ernst Gerhardt, Prof. Dr. Andreas Heldrich, Dr. David Leuchem, Sophie Lohr, Colette Renette Manachuk, Prof. Dr. Werner Meisner, Hans Riebsaenen, Prince Casimir & Princess Beatrice Wittgenstein.

Holland - Prof. Arnold & Betty Feenje, Robert Weiss.

Israel - George & Mary Bloch, Hedy - Dan & Clara David.

Mexico - Eng. Isaac & Dr. Alice Bachtal, Mr. & Mrs. Kuchky, Mr. & Mrs. Lipton.

South Africa - Estelle Yach.

Switzerland - Dr. Boaz Barack, Francis & Francine Brunschwig, Robert & Ruth Guey, Dr. (Hon.) Kael-Meier & Manouche Kipp, Dr. Andre Kuy, Erich & Erica Marx, Evi Staubli, Dr. H. Peter Tarnowsky, Dr. Jonas & Claudia Uchacz, United Kingdom - Dr. Harold & Nina Preiskel, Shoshana Schreiber, Gerald Wolfeld.

United States - William Cohen, Stewart & Judy Colton, Efrain & Catherine Gildor, Jon Gurkoff, Jan Mitchell, Oliver & Rabi Mitchell, Varda Yaron.

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98 17TH ANNUAL MEETING

Vilna'i: CGS-appointment affair shameful act, dirty trick

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

Rejected as his choice for top commander of the IDF, Maj.-Gen. Matan Vilna'i verbally lashed out at Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai over the weekend, saying not promoting him was a "shameful act" and a "dirty trick."

It was Vilna'i's first public reaction to Mordechai's decision to name Maj.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz as the next chief of General Staff, and his comments drew criticism from the Left, Right, and the IDF.

Speaking Friday before students at the Israeli Center for Academic Studies in Kiryat Ono, Vilna'i gave a lecture entitled "Excellence in Leadership."

"In my opinion, no doubt most of the public believe a shameful act was committed at the beginning of the week. That is no secret. I would even call it a dirty trick," Vilna'i said, adding he would make no further reference to the matter. His comments were received by a standing ovation.

"I will find the right place and the right time [to react further] and will not spare a single word," said a bitter Vilna'i. "I believe everything has to be said in a fair, clear, and smooth way in order for

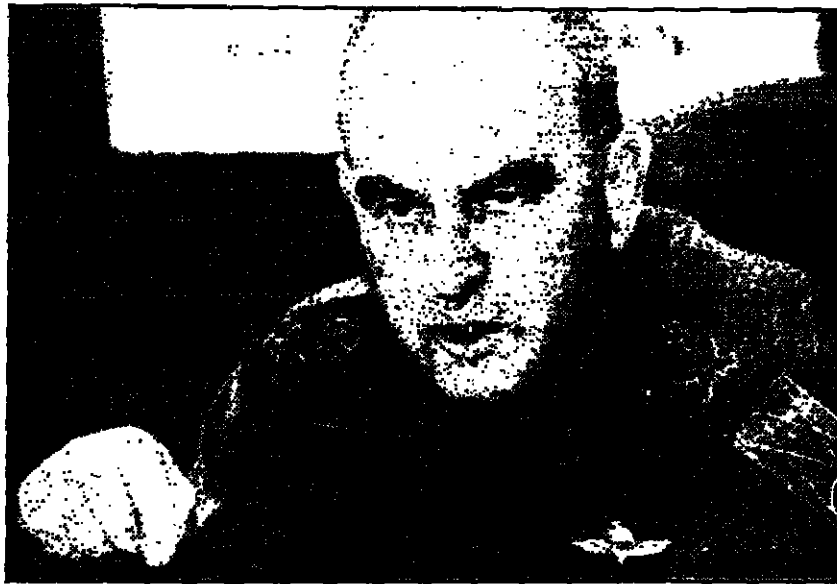
people to understand what we are talking about."

Before entering the auditorium in Kiryat Ono, Vilna'i led reporters to believe they had come for nothing. "You're wasting your time here, really," he said. But upon leaving the auditorium he was asked his opinion of the explanations why Mofaz was chosen over him. Vilna'i said: "You heard reasons? I haven't."

In reaction, Mordechai's spokesman Avi Benayahu put out a statement saying, "Mordechai does not hold discussions through the media on angry statements made by a general in uniform still on active duty."

Labor MK Yossi Beilin also criticized Vilna'i's verbal attack. "The process may have been shameful, but a major-general in the IDF who gets up and speaks in uniform of a 'shameful act' and 'dirty trick' is something that should not be done," Beilin said. "Vilna'i was an officer and a gentleman for many years. If he wants to remain a gentleman, he can't be an officer."

Vilna'i has much support among the top IDF brass, who are still reeling from Mordechai's appointment of Mofaz over



Maj.-Gen. Matan Vilna'i

(IDF Spokesman file photo)

the more experienced Vilna'i. But there has not been any signs of a walkout by generals or any serious protest.

Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin Shahak also condemned Vilna'i's very unusual comments, saying senior

officers should keep their opinions to themselves.

Military sources said Shahak's statement also referred to comments made by Brig.-Gen. Ya'acov Amidror. Mordechai's military aide, in an interview in which he voiced contempt for secular Israelis.

Meretz Party leader MK Yossi Sarid opposed Amidror's promotion to OC Intelligence because of his "prejudice." Sarid said he and other legislators were working to foil the promotion of Amidror. "I know, and I am saying this with the utmost validity, that the IDF has six candidates for head of intelligence — four major-generals and two brigadier-generals. None of them is called Amidror. So the IDF is not suggesting Amidror as head of intelligence," Sarid told Channel 1.

"Perhaps someone else, a politician, is proposing Amidror and so we are treating it as a political appointment," Sarid said.

Mordechai is extremely supportive of his military aide and is said to want to make him the first observant Jewish major-general and member of the General Staff in many years. The fuss

over Amidror derives from an interview he gave to *Yedioth Aharonot* in which he said "the secular are nothing but Hebrew-speaking gentiles. What will remain of their culture after 50 years? The rock band Tea Packs?"

Mordechai last night issued a statement asking politicians not to interfere with the reshuffle of top slots being decided on this week in the IDF. He said the promotions would be done on merit and political pressures would have no influence. Mordechai made the same comments before deciding not to promote Vilna'i.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is to meet with Vilna'i later this week, Channel 2 reported, in order to discuss the general's future. There is speculation that Vilna'i could be named to replace Ami Ayalon as head of the General Security Service, but Mordechai is said to be against this and Ayalon has at least another two years left in his term with an option to extend it.

"If Matan Vilna'i wants to continue contributing to the State of Israel, I will make sure that he will be able to do this in the best way possible," Netanyahu told Channel 2 from the US.

HEBREW PRESS REVIEW

By ORLY AHARONI

Nakba day

"The *nakba* jubilee was created as a Palestinian response to Israel's jubilee events," states *Yedioth Aharonot's* Roni Shaked. He is one of many Hebrew press commentators who wrote about the violence in the territories on Thursday.

Shaked writes that the event was a gimmick to earn sympathy. It also was a step toward declaring a Palestinian state next year.

Ha'aretz editorializes that the violent events were a direct result of the desperation caused by the political stalemate.

"The opposition to marking the *nakba* indicates that the patronizing and the complacent attitude that characterized Israel's attitude towards the Palestinians throughout the years... is still rooted throughout most of the public and its government," the editorial says.

Ma'ariv's Hagai Segal writes that the blame for the violence lies with Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat's willingness to sacrifice his people in "clear mind and cold blood." He adds that unlike the Israelis, who are endlessly engaged in soul-searching and remorse about the conflict, the Palestinians "are 100% convinced their crooked conduct is justifiable."

Palestinian left-wing activist Dr. Jamal Zehalka calls on Israelis to empathize with the pain of those Palestinians who were deported from their homes 50 years ago. He says that Israel is not justified in feeling threatened by the Palestinian commemoration of *al-nakba*. He adds that it is ironic that those who memorialize events that occurred thousands of years ago are the same ones who want to

deny the Palestinians the opportunity to commemorate an event that occurred not long ago.

Satisfying everyone

Labor Party leader Ehud Barak has provoked criticism from the press following his promise to settlers in Samaria that the settlements of Beit El and Ofra always will remain under Israeli jurisdiction.

In his article, "The snake hug," Yehiam Vaitz in *Ma'ariv* claims that, of all of Barak's mistakes since he became opposition leader, this is the worst possible one. He explains that these two settlements represent the settlement "enterprise," whose main objective is to interfere with the peace process. They contradict everything that Barak is supposed to represent, Vaitz writes.

Dan Margalit writes in *Ha'aretz* that Barak meant to convey to the religious voter he does not constitute a threat to all settlements.

"So what? He promised not to give up some settlements, but he did not promise to keep his word," says Uri Orbach in *Yedioth*.

Yedioth's Silvy Keshet writes that Barak is revealed as a "sort of pathetic Shweik [soldier] in the political battlefield." She adds that if he backs his statement will push the settlers to vote for him, he must either be naive or not very smart.

Nuclear potential

"It is clear that India will have to pay a high price for her muscle flexing," *Yedioth's* Ron Ben-Yishai states, referring to the sanctions the US plans to impose on India after India conducted a series of nuclear experiments. Ben-Yishai adds that

the Israeli intelligence apparatus claims that in approximately a year and a half, Israel will find itself in a similar strategic situation.

Ben-Yishai adds that the fact that Israel has down confusion regarding its nuclear capabilities may improve its deterrence. However, once the Arab countries are armed with operational nuclear weapons, Israel will lose that advantage.

Israeli, US officials discuss combat jet deal

By STEVE RODAN

US Army Lt.-Gen. Michael Davison, director of the US Defense Security Assistance Agency, left Israel yesterday after five days of talks about Israeli weapons acquisitions, including a proposal for deferred payment of American combat jets.

Israel is seeking deferred pay-

ment for the next multi-billion dollar purchase of jets, whose type will be decided this fall in a competition pitting the F-15I of the Boeing Corp. against the F-16 of Lockheed Martin.

Davison, who manages nearly \$218 billion in ongoing foreign military sales accounts with about 120 nations, met the heads of all IDF services as well as their acquisition chiefs. He also

toured several defense companies.

The three-star general met with Ilan Biran, the director-general of the Defense Ministry, who has made a long-term deferred payment schedule a key issue in Israel's next purchase of fighter planes.

Israeli defense officials last month completed the technical specifications of the F-15 vs. F-

16 competition.

They have complained that a 1994 \$2.5 billion F-15I purchase requires that Israel repay about half of the bill in 1999, immediately after the delivery of the last of the 25 jets.

Davison's visit also dealt with the logjam between the two countries over whether Israel could spend proposed additional US military aid in the country.

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PM to Pollard: We will work tirelessly to bring you home

By HILLEL KUTTLER

WASHINGTON - Cabinet Secretary Danny Naveh met Friday with Israeli spy Jonathan Pollard, handing him a letter from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu saying that "you are not alone" and pledging that Israel "will go on working tirelessly and dauntlessly to bring you home."

Pollard thanked Naveh and Netanyahu, as well as ministers and Knesset members "who made it possible for this development to occur."

"I know it was a very hard process. It was a hard decision that was made. But I think it was a principled decision that brings honor to the entire state, not just to the government," Pollard said at the Federal Correctional Institution in Butner, North Carolina, where he is serving a life sentence.

He was referring to his months-long negotiations with the government for public accountability in his case, which were accelerated by a High Court of Justice order that Israel declare if Pollard was an agent it recruited when he worked at the US Department of the Navy. The cabinet issued a declaration last week to that effect.

Pollard had maintained that such an acknowledgment was necessary if the US was ever to take seriously Israel's requests to commute his sentence.

He also said that years from now, the ministers' visits will be seen to have played a critical role in obtaining his release. "The government's decision with regard to recognizing my status, I think, lays the foundation for an equitable resolution of the affair through political means," Pollard said, after acknowledging he had no legal recourse open.

Naveh, who heads the cabinet committee on Pollard, is in effect the most senior Israeli official to ever meet with Pollard. Four ministers have flown to Butner in the past five months, beginning with Absorption Minister Yuli Edelstein.

Naveh and Pollard hugged at the start of their meeting and Naveh later gave Pollard a kiddush cup.

"I hope the day when you will be able to say the kiddush in Israel will be soon," Naveh said to Pollard.

For the first time, Pollard granted interviews to Israeli media during a visit by an Israeli official. While two representatives of the Washington-based Israeli media have alternately sat in on the ministers' meetings in the penitentiary,



Israeli spy Jonathan Pollard (right) shakes hands with Cabinet Secretary Danny Naveh on Friday at the Federal Correctional Institution in Butner, North Carolina.

Pollard had until now refused to answer the reporters' questions. He and Naveh also met, with no

reporters present, for an hour. In an expansive interview, Pollard told the reporters he was "extreme-

ly pleased" to have met with Netanyahu's top aide, saying Naveh was "very constructive and general-

ly prepared" to carry out "the government's recent initiative and to bring me home."

In a meeting with Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman in March, Pollard was critical of the Naveh panel because, as he stated Friday, "at the time, things were going much slower than I had hoped that they would." But Pollard said he has since become more sensitive to the complexity of the government's handling of his case, and "the more I learned about what Danny was doing... the more respect I had for what he was able to do."

"A person in my situation, as you can imagine, wants to come home immediately, and sometimes we lose patience," he said. "I can assure you that the confidence that I had in Danny before was justified and it was proven a few days ago."

"I am convinced, based on what Danny told me, that the government understands very well what needs to be done right now... to get this done."

Pollard again took responsibility for illegally passing intelligence to Israel and expressed contrition for what he had done, saying he had no excuses.

He said he hoped the government's landmark decision to recog-

nize him as an Israeli agent is "acknowledged and appreciated and reciprocated" by those circles in the American government that want to see his case resolved.

Naveh laid out for him "a very decisive and realistic campaign" planned to secure his release, Pollard said. Naveh later told Israeli reporters it is too early to know whether Israel's new approach would prove effective.

Asked in the interview whether, in retrospect, his spying hurt Israel's security, Pollard said: "I don't think that anything I did helped Israel. The decision that I took was a wrong decision. What happened to me at the time was that my status as a spy of mine - my fear for Israel's security. And instead of acting on those fears in a more appropriate and responsible manner, by perhaps changing my status to the attention of Congress, the House and Senate, I chose to act on my personal feelings. Whatever good I have done for Israel I do not know. I have done the kind of act I think I did."

Pollard said he did not damage American security in any way, all because of his personal feelings. "I did it for Israel, and I am sorry to the bone," he said.

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Pakistan: We must meet India's challenge



Protesters with skull masks demonstrate against recent Indian nuclear tests in Calcutta yesterday. Local intellectuals called the tests a farce whose only aim is to threaten Pakistan and China. (AP)

India rebuffs China on nuke test

NEW DELHI (Reuters) — India condemned China yesterday for its criticism of New Delhi's nuclear tests this week and said Beijing was applying double standards.

The Indian ambassador was called to hear a protest on Thursday from the Chinese foreign ministry after the blasts told that Beijing was "deeply shocked" by the underground tests.

"China's own record in respect of international opinion in continuing its program of nuclear tests until considered necessary for the purpose of developing nuclear weapons is well known," the Indian Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

The statement said China conducted 45 nuclear tests between 1964 and 1996, of which 23 were atmospheric.

"It is strange that China is not

willing to concede the same logic to India that it applies to itself," the statement said.

The Foreign Ministry said India could not but take into account the "offensive nuclear weapon and missile capability in our region" and referred to "external sources to clandestine nuclear weapons and missile development program in our immediate neighborhood."

India has accused China of providing missile technology to arch-foe Pakistan. Both Beijing and Islamabad deny the accusation.

The statement described as "baseless and unwarranted" accusations by China that New Delhi was seeking hegemony over South Asia. India was open to a dialogue on nuclear disarmament and relations with China.

The two nations had recently edged closer, improving relations

soured by a brief border war in 1962, until a recent reported statement by Defense Minister George Fernandes that India saw Beijing as the top potential threat.

Earlier yesterday, Beijing's *China Daily*, quoting a poll, said most Chinese were shocked at India's series of nuclear tests, with four-fifths saying New Delhi's actions threatened China.

Some 89 percent of those surveyed by the Social Survey Institute of China were strongly critical of India over the tests, the newspaper said. The institute is a division of the State Statistical Bureau.

"More than 91 percent of people said they were shocked by India's nuclear tests, and 80% said they worry about... China's national security," it said.

The telephone survey covered 1,500 residents in Beijing, Shanghai, Tianjin, Wuhan and several other large cities.

India held three underground nuclear tests last Monday and two last Wednesday, drawing fierce international condemnation and sanctions from the US.

Japan and Canada have also cut

back aid. China — the last declared nuclear power after Britain, the United States, Russia and France to announce a halt to testing — had been the target of world criticism itself until 1996.

In September 1996, China signed the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty at the United Nations and imposed a moratorium on future nuclear testing.

By KATHY GANNON

ISLAMABAD (AP) — "We cannot ignore the aspirations of our people to meet the nuclear challenge imposed by India," foreign secretary Shamshad Ahmed said yesterday.

Pakistan won't rush into a nuclear test to match India, but it is keeping its nuclear option open, he said, adding: "There is no question of any renunciation of our option."

His comments came a day after US Deputy Secretary of State Strobe Talbott was assured by Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif that a "final or irrevocable" decision has not been made on testing a nuclear device.

Also yesterday, Pakistan's ambassador to Russia said his country would sign the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty if rival India disarms its nuclear weapons.

"While we still adhere to the objectives of non-proliferation, the question of joining these

treaties will depend on India's response to the international community's demand to reverse the course of action it has taken," Ambassador Mansoor Alam told the Interfax news agency in Moscow.

Pakistan and India have gone to war three times since the Asian subcontinent gained its independence from Britain in 1947.

Ahmed said Pakistan is watching the industrialized world to see its reaction to India's testing, before deciding whether to explode a nuclear device of its own.

He said Pakistan would not act in "madness," like India, and that its response would be "measured... We are not talking of anything in terms of hours, days, months or weeks... We are monitoring the situation... One of the factors to be kept in mind is how the world community responds," he said.

Ahmed dismissed the sanctions being imposed on India as "irrelevant" and said Sharif sent a letter to the leaders of the seven indus-

trialized nations and Russia attending a summit in Britain.

In that letter, Sharif warned that "Indian action has raised the possibility of aggressive military acts against Pakistan." He chastised the industrialized world for ignoring signals and warnings from Pakistan that India was preparing to cross the nuclear threshold.

"We are once again being asked to exercise restraint at an extremely critical juncture on matters involving national security and survival," the prime minister said in his letter.

Ahmed also urged the international community to move toward resolving the outstanding issue of the disputed state of Kashmir — a flash point of two previous wars between India and Pakistan. He warned that the dispute could spiral out of control into another war between the two hostile neighbors.

Ahmed said the government expects India to try to occupy Pakistan's half of Kashmir "and if they do it will represent an escalation beyond the threshold of our tolerance."



STATE OF ISRAEL
Ministry of the Interior

Display of Voters Rolls for the Knesset and
Local Authorities

Applications for Transfer to a
Disabled Persons' Voting Station

Any person who, because of physical disability, is unable to vote at the voting station to which he is assigned, may apply to the Minister of the Interior, requesting that his name be transferred to another voting list and to a voting station where arrangements are available for disabled voters.

The locations of these voting stations will be published on bulletin boards in all the local councils. Application forms requesting transfer to a voting station with facilities for the disabled are available at the Population Registry Offices.

An application form will be posted to you, if you request this by phoning 09-767-7249. The completed and signed application form should be sent to the address given in the form. Applications must arrive before June 1, 1998.

Anyone who has submitted such an application in the past need not submit one again.

The Ministry of the Interior - At Your Service



STATE OF ISRAEL
MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR

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FOR THE KNESSET AND
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Dear Citizen,

1. In accordance with the Knesset Elections Law (Consolidated Version), 1969, and the Local Councils Law (Elections), 1965, the voters' roll has been drawn up and includes the name of every citizen and resident in a local authority whose 18th birthday falls no later than November 10, 1998.

The Voters' Roll will be on display
from May 13, 1998 until May 22, 1998
at the Population Registry Offices

2. If your name does not appear in the roll or if there is an error in the registration of your name or address, a complaint can be submitted at any of the Population Registry Offices until June 1, 1998.

3. Anyone who has submitted a complaint and has received no reply by June 25, 1998 or is dissatisfied with the reply received may submit an appeal until July 5, 1998 to any District Court. No court fees will be required.

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Information will not be given at these numbers at any other time.

The Ministry of the Interior - At Your Service

US Senate set to debate historic tobacco bill

By JOANNE KENEN

WASHINGTON (Reuters) — The tobacco bill that the Senate takes up tomorrow aims to slash teen smoking and transform an industry that has been a mainstay of US culture and economy since colonial times.

The bill's author, Arizona Republican John McCain, was not among the long-time anti-tobacco campaigners in Congress, but once he seized on this issue, he became increasingly determined to push through a major initiative with or without the cooperation of the tobacco industry.

"Every public health expert, every living former surgeon-general, every living American who is involved in the issue of kids and smoking says you have to take a comprehensive approach," said McCain.

His bill raises prices, limits advertising, increases Food and Drug Administration regulation of nicotine, and gives the industry limited protection from civil lawsuit damages.

Majority Leader Trent Lott said on CNBC's *Tim Russert* yesterday there is "at least a 50-50 chance" something will pass in the Senate

but there is a danger "it will get out of control and just explode." Many in the anti-tobacco camp say lopsided votes in Senate committees attest to momentum being on their side. Many of them want a bill even tougher than McCain's legislation, which itself is much tougher than most people expected even a month or two ago.

But rarely has a piece of major legislation gone to the Senate floor with so much in doubt. Passage is likely but not certain. No one really knows how the final version will look.

Lawmakers are girding for fights over second-hand smoke, legal fees in tobacco lawsuits, the international cigarette trade, and aid to tobacco farmers.

But the two biggest questions will be over how much the industry should pay, and how much protection, if any, they should get from future lawsuits.

"Next week is not going to be for the faint-hearted," said Ron Wyden, an Oregon Democrat and a long-time campaigner against the cigarette makers, who is pressing for the higher price and steps to curtail cigarette marketing to children around the world.

As approved by McCain's Commerce Committee, the bill would raise cigarette prices by \$1.10 a pack over five years. But the Finance Committee last week endorsed a \$1.50 tax hike over three years, and the vote on the proposal will be one of the most significant of the coming week.

"The only reason we are here is to begin to attack the annual loss of lives attributable to young people starting to smoke," said Florida Democrat Sen. Bob Graham, who favors the \$1.50 price increase.

"This is one of the most regressive tax increases in the history of the country," countered Texas Republican Sen. Phil Graham, a fervent tax-cutter, who is skeptical that a big government plan can do much to curb teen smoking.

Liability is the other central issue. McCain recently modified his bill to give the industry less immunity. Under the latest formulation — and details were still being negotiated over the weekend — the industry would not have to pay more than \$8

billion in legal judgments in any one year.

That is far less protection than the industry sought under the June 20 pact it negotiated with 40 states suing it last year. But it is more than many lawmakers can stomach.

"Congress morally should not reward an industry that has, according to their own internal documents, hidden the truth about the addictiveness of its product and actively marketed an addictive product to our children," said New Hampshire Republican Judd Gregg.

Even though most of the push will be to make the bill tougher, a small group of conservatives wants to roll it back, and depending on how the floor fights develop, some of the tobacco state representatives may team up with them.

"I want to kill this bill," said Don Nickles, an Oklahoma Republican. "The Nanny State is out to run your life and empty your wallet," said Missouri Republican John Ashcroft.

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TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY



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Professor Dr. Alfred Ebenbauer
Rector of the University of Vienna

Some Reflections upon the Inauguration
of the Austria Floor

on Monday, 18 May, 1998, at 12:15 p.m.
Tel Aviv University Campus, Ramat Aviv
Entrance by invitation only



Debt-relief rally deafens G-8 summit

By HELEN SMITH

BIRMINGHAM, England (Reuters) - Tens of thousands of people blowing whistles and banging drums formed a human chain in Birmingham yesterday to press home a call on world leaders to cancel Third World debt.

At 3 p.m., the crowd of people of all ages, backgrounds and races burst into deafening cheers and chants of "No more debt!" The 10km. long chain, at least four people deep, circled the main conference hall in the central English city where the leaders of the Group of Eight major countries are holding their annual summit.

But the center was empty yesterday afternoon. The presidents and prime ministers were spending most of the day outside Birmingham at a state home away from the prying eyes of the media.

The turnout to join the chain in bright spring sunshine was bigger than even the organizers had hoped.

"I think it's absolutely wonderful to see so many people have bothered to come. It just shows the strength of feeling," said wheelchair-bound Ann Echlin, who had travelled with other members of her church from Rochester in southeast England.

In what organizers of the chain said was a last-minute climb-down, British Prime Minister Tony Blair has agreed to meet campaigners for debt relief on his return from the country house retreat.

"I am delighted that the chair of the G8 has finally acknowledged the extraordinary worldwide movement present in Birmingham today. We said all along that 50,000 people in the streets of Birmingham were as important as eight men in a country house," said Ann Pettifor, director of the Jubilee 2000 coalition of charities and non-governmental organizations behind the "people's summit" running parallel to the main event.

The G8 issued a statement expressing support for the campaign and stressing their concern about the debt burden on poor countries.

But "debt relief in itself is no magic solution," the statement said. It stressed the G8's commitment to the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries initiative, which the campaigners say does not go far enough to help the debtors.

Some of the demonstrators began their pilgrimage to Birmingham to join the chain several days ago, travelling by foot and bicycle from all corners of Britain. Others arrived by parachute and by windsurfer and barge along the city's canal network. One woman priest rowed to the scene in a replica of an ancient coracle boat.

Britain's international development secretary, Clare Short, addressed a large enthusiastic crowd outside St. Philip's Cathedral in central Birmingham, paying tribute to them for raising awareness of the importance of debt relief for developing countries.

"I think what you are achieving today is more than just piling on pressure to cancel the debt, important as that is, this is a declaration of an end of the selfishness of the 1980s and early 90s," Short said, eliciting huge cheers.



Russian President Boris Yeltsin waves to onlookers as he arrives at the Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery on Friday. British Prime Minister Tony Blair hosted a working dinner at the museum for the eight leaders of the major industrialised nations attending the G8 economic summit.

Sinn Fein official shot during kids' communion

DUBLIN (AP) - A gunman shot one of Dublin's leading Sinn Fein figures, then his grown son, during First Communion services at a Roman Catholic church yesterday.

Dublin City Councilman Larry O'Toole and his son were both hospitalized in stable condition after being shot once each through the torso at St. Joseph's Church. The church lies in the middle of the capital's most notorious welfare-housing project, Ballymun.

The attack terrorized the approximately 70 children, mostly seven-year-olds in suits, and girls in white lace dresses, who ran screaming in every direction. None was hurt as the gunman shot O'Toole, then fired two more shots in the air as he ran out.

Adult worshippers chased the gunman outside, where O'Toole's son was also hit. Others disarmed and beat up the attacker before police arrested him under terms of the Irish Republic's anti-terrorist laws. No clear motive was immediately established.

The shooting comes at a time of simmering splits within the ranks of Sinn Fein and its Irish Republican Army allies.

Last weekend Sinn Fein activists overwhelmingly endorsed the strategy of Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams to accept the compromise Northern Ireland agreement, which means they would participate fully in a new government for the Protestant-majority province.

IRA members opposed to the outlawed group's July 1997 truce that made this strategy possible have broken away to form a rival command nicknamed "IRA" or Real IRA. Most of the dissidents come from the Irish Republic.

Two weekends ago, this dissident group tried to rob a cash-filled armored car south of Dublin, but instead police ambushed the gang, slaying 28-year-old Roman MacLoughlin, a senior IRA defector from Ballymun.

His funeral Mass was said May 7 inside the same, Ballymun church where yesterday's shooting occurred.

But Sinn Fein, seeking to build support in working-class parts of Dublin, also has mobilized vigilante groups against drug traffickers in places like Ballymun.

And the IRA, which runs rackets in the Irish Republic ranging from videotape piracy to bank robbery, frequently comes into violent conflict with criminal rivals.

Drugs, crime and debt

BIRMINGHAM, England (Reuters) - World leaders retired to a stately English country mansion yesterday to debate the problems of drugs, cross-border crime and Third World debt away from the gaze of the media.

On the second day of their annual Group of Eight summit, the leaders of the US, Russia, Japan, Britain, France, Germany, Italy and Canada took off their ties and conferred informally in the secluded splendor of Weston Park, a 17th-century estate 32km. from Birmingham.

They raced through their agenda and ended their talks in time to allow their host, British Prime Minister Tony Blair, to watch his favorite team, Newcastle United, lose 2-0 to Arsenal in the English soccer cup final.

While they were debating relieving poverty in Africa, tens of thousands of demonstrators poured into the central English city to stage a noisy protest demanding that the rich nations write off the debt mountain of the world's poorest countries for the millennium.

Banging drums and blowing whistles, the activists formed a colorful human chain around the conference center and chanted "no more debt" in an action embraced by Blair as a sign of public concern to alleviate poverty, famine and starvation.

The conditional debt relief for selected countries envisaged by the G8 leaders fell well short of the total cancellation sought by Third World countries and pressure groups.

Officials said the G8 leaders were expected to encourage creditor countries to press ahead and if possible accelerate a debt-relief initiative agreed two years ago to help the poorest highly indebted nations.

Blair said in a response to the Jubilee 2000 petition: "I can assure you that all leaders here fully share your concern over the debt burden faced by many poor countries." But he said debt relief in itself was no magic solution and had to go hand in hand with the right development policies and sound, honest government.

On crime and drugs, the leaders were shown police videos on cross-border computer hacking and international arms trafficking, and given a sheaf of alarming statistics about the growth of illegal narcotics trade.

Roy Penrose, director general of Britain's National Crime Squad, warned them that they were sitting on the threshold of a "high-tech" boom in cross-border crime.

Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chretien told reporters: "We discussed using telecommunications and computers to hide crimes: We have to work together to stop that before it spreads."

French President Jacques Chirac voiced particular alarm about the growth in drugs production and demanded a zero tolerance policy towards soft as well as hard drugs.

A summit communiqué pledged action to combat crime using the Internet, money-laundering, corruption and the illegal manufacturing and trafficking of firearms.

"There must be no safe havens either for criminals or for their money," it said.

It promised backing for efforts to negotiate an effective United Nations convention against transnational organized crime and rapid implementation of a 10-point anti-crime plan agreed by G8 justice and interior ministers last December.

The leaders devoted their first formal session on Friday night to trying to defuse the crisis in Indonesia and prevent a nuclear

arms race between India and Pakistan.

US President Bill Clinton told reporters yesterday he did not know whether their statement of condemnation, which omitted any mention of sanctions against India for its five nuclear tests this week, would be enough to dissuade Pakistan from following suit but he hoped so.

The leaders also appealed for progress in the Middle East peace process and welcomed the first meeting between Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic and ethnic Albanian leaders from the troubled Serbian province of Kosovo as a first step towards peace.

SA Moslems mark 'Nakba'

CAPE TOWN (AP) - Moslem demonstrators trampled and burned the Israeli flag yesterday during a march to protest the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Israeli state.

Hundreds of members and supporters of the group Oqiba marched to Parliament and demanded that South Africa sever ties with Israel. They were escorted by armored police vehicles.

Carrying signs saying "Death to Israel" and "Long live Hamas," the protesters in South Africa shouted "One Zionist, one bullet."

The slogan was an adaptation of a phrase used by angry blacks during apartheid who threatened to reclaim land from white farmers with the cry, "One settler, one bullet."

Hamas has carried out more than a dozen suicide attacks in Israel since 1994, killing scores of Israelis.

The Israeli Embassy, scene of violent incidents in the past, was surrounded by razor wire and police. Parliament's entrance was guarded by 50 policemen.

Iman Achmed Cassiem, one of the group's leaders, delivered a message to a foreign affairs official at Parliament.

He told his supporters that Israel is a racist, imperialist, colonial state that collaborated with the former apartheid government.

"We do not believe it should exist," Cassiem said.

Earlier this month, South Africa refused a visa to Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, the founder and spiritual leader of Hamas.

UNIVERSITY OF HAIFA

The Jewish-Arab Center
The Gustav Heinemann Institute of Middle Eastern Studies
The Friedrich Ebert Foundation

International Conference

Twenty Years Since the Egypt-Israel Peace Treaty:
The Camp David Accords and their Impact
on the Peace Process

Wednesday-Thursday, May 20-21, 1998

Wednesday, 20 May 1998

16:00-16:30 Opening and Greetings

Prof. Gad Gilbar, Rector, University of Haifa
Dr. Mohamed Bassiouny, Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt to Israel
Ms. Turkan Karakurt, The Friedrich Ebert Foundation
Dr. Ibrahim Gerles, Head of the Jewish-Arab Center

16:30-18:30 Round Table: Egypt - Israel Relations

Chairperson: Prof. Joseph Ginat, University of Haifa
Dr. Mohamed Bassiouny, Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt to Israel
Prof. Joseph Ginat, University of Haifa
Prof. Sasson Somekh, Director, Israeli Academic Center, Cairo
Prof. Emanuel Marx, Tel-Aviv University

Thursday, 21 May 1998

09:30-11:30 First Session

Chairperson: Dr. Kais Firro, University of Haifa
Dr. Yoram Meital, Ben Gurion University
Egypt's Road to the 1977 Initiative
Prof. Saad Eddin Ibrahim, Ibn Khaldoun Center for Development, Cairo
The Vindication of Sadat in the Arab World:
Can the Peace Process be Saved?
Ambassador Moshe Sasson
President Sadat as I Remember Him

11:45-13:30 Second Session

Chairperson: Prof. Yael Yishai, University of Haifa
Dr. Uri M. Kupferschmidt, University of Haifa
Islamists and Radical Islamists: Political Priorities and Peace Agendas
Dr. Yossi Amichay, Acting Director, Israeli Academic Center, Cairo
The Egyptian Left's Response Towards Sadat's Initiative
Dr. Shibley Telhami, Anwar Sadat Chair for Population, Development and Peace, U.S.A
Egypt Twenty Years Later: The New Arabism

15:00-16:30 Third Session

Chairperson: Prof. David Kushner, University of Haifa
Dr. Eli Podch, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
The Transformation of the Arab System in the Aftermath of the Israeli-Egyptian Peace Treaty
Dr. Rafeb M. Amro, Director General, Horizon Center for Studies and Research, Amman
Three years of the Jordan-Israel Peace Treaties: A Jordanian Perspective
Prof. Mubana Y. Haddad, Al-Yarmuk University, Irbid
Sadat: Self-consciousness and the Jump to Peace

16:45-18:00 Fourth Session

Chairperson: Dr. Mahmud Yazbak, University of Haifa
Dr. Taisir Amre, Director General Ministry of Economy and Trade, Palestinian Authority, Hebron University
The Egypt-Israel Peace Treaty: A Beginning or an End?
Dr. Michael Eppel, University of Haifa
The Socio-Political Conditions of the Peace Process: Comparative Remarks About Israel and the Arab States
Prof. Gabriel Ben Dor, University of Haifa
Sadat's Initiative and the Oslo Peace Process: Lessons in Comparative Perspective

The public is invited



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Conductor, **Noam Sheriff**
Semion Kruchin, piano
Anat Eini, contralto

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Mahler - Symphony No. 3 in D minor

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**DRIVE
CAREFULLY**

Up & away from Down Under

By ORA BRAPMAN

Pink-blossomed magnolia trees line the main street of Adelaide, where Meryl Tankard has her studio. The tatty, century-old exterior of the building that houses the Australian Dance Theater does not prepare you for the explosion of energy on the rehearsal floor.

The company is rehearsing some of the flight scenes from Tankard's *Furioso* (1993), which opens for six performances at the Tel Aviv Performing Arts Center Tuesday.

Tankard says she wanted to bring a more recent work for her Israeli debut, like the 1997 *Seulle* or *Possessed*, which premiered at the recent Adelaide Festival, but "the Israeli impresario insisted on *Furioso*," a favorite with most audiences and a multiple award winner.

It's easy to see why. The dancers, harnessed to cables, execute some hair-raising mid-air maneuvers at high velocity, fears which demand perfect coordination lest the intrepid acrobats collide.

Furioso confirmed Tankard's reputation as Australia's leading choreographer. It was also her first work for the ADT, which was near moribund when she took over in 1993 as the 25-year-old company's fourth artistic director.

Today the ADT has joined Tankard on the international dance map, its reputation as high-flying as the dancers.

An endlessly curious artist, Tankard likes to surprise herself, as well as her audiences. When you see one work by her, you're still unprepared for the next.

The compact, dark-haired, dark-eyed dancer was born in Darwin. She took ballet lessons "because the available choices were either that or basket weaving. At ballet school I used to get fined 20 cents if a strand of hair slipped out of my chignon. The training I had was full of pain, denial and obstacles."

Perhaps that's why, in 1995, she created a new choreography for Tchaikovsky's *The Sleeping Beauty*, which she describes as "full of joy."

Her father, an air force man, often relocated the family, so they lived "in Penang (Malaysia), Sydney, Newcastle and Melbourne, where she joined the Australian Ballet school and later the company.

Anne Williams, then AB's artistic director, recognized and encouraged Tankard's creative talents.

Her first piece, *Birds Behind Bars*, ridiculed classical ballet as well as modern dance. A Melbourne review described the work as "what might have happened if two roosters wandered into a performance of *Swan Lake* staged by the staff of a Brazilian brothel."



Meryl Tankard

Young Tankard took the prize money she won for the work and went off to check out European dance. A friend persuaded her to audition for Pina Bausch at Wuppertal, where some of the most interesting dance was happening.

This was 1978 and Bausch's international career was just about to take off.

Tankard became one of Bausch's favorite soloists and led many of the "parade" scenes — those long rows of dancers that are a Bausch signature. She did several of the unforgettable scenes in *Café Müller*, *Kontakthoff*, and 1980 among others, that were often based on her personal experience and her childhood memories, since that's the way Pina Bausch worked.

In *Waltzer*, a straight-faced Tankard is chatting center stage, and at the same time she takes off her undies and puts them on her head to illustrate to her colleagues how effective they are in deterring flies if you happened to eat your sandwich in the heat of the desert. It's true, she swears. It's just a variation on an incident that occurred in her family.

Bausch and Tankard collaborated more and more, complement-

ing each other's strengths. It has been said that 1980 is as much Tankard as Bausch.

A Wuppertal tour to Australia in 1983 made Tankard realize how homesick she was "for [its] fresh, original energy," but it took another year for her to leave.

When she did go, Bausch refused to talk to her for six months. Then she invited her to come back and dance as a guest artist in many of the company's international tours.

She did. But in the meantime, Tankard started to work back in Australia as well as freelancing in Europe, creating pieces like *Traveling Light* and the solo *Two Feet*.

After a decade of freelancing, she formed her own company in Canberra and created 10 major works in four years, including the powerful *Song of Mars*.

Tankard never adopted Pina Bausch's vocabulary, although she readily acknowledges the great influence it has had on her work.

Why did she leave Bausch? Tankard says, "I loved to play roles on stage. When I first saw what Pina was doing, I laughed and I cried, and I said this is what theater and dance should be. By then I was pretty disappointed with classical ballet and realized I didn't want to keep doing it. Pina and I hit it off and I stayed, but after six years one needs a break."

By God, she worked us long hours into the night, all day, every day. I missed the Australian climate. The thing I missed most was the blue sky. In Europe the skies are nearly always gray."

On a visit to Australia Tankard found blue sky again, and she found love in a PR photo session on Bondi Beach with French photographer Régis Lansac, who became her companion, artistic counselor and the company's exclusive photographer.

Among her peers, Tankard is considered a tough lady, demanding and ambitious. Within her company she is attentive to the dancers, very alert, never misses a move around her, is hopelessly curious and constantly in control without crowding the dancers' personal space.

Everything is grist for her creative mill, one critic said. He called her "mistress of the serendipitous."

Furioso opens for six performances at the Tel Aviv Performing Arts Center Tuesday.



Fans will have a long wait before seeing Nicole Kidman and her husband Tom Cruise in Kubrick's 'Eyes Wide Shut.'

(File photo)

Waiting for Cruise

By ROBERT W. WELKOS

On December 13, 1996, *Jerry Maguire* starring Tom Cruise opened in theaters around the US and immediately became a blockbuster hit.

But the next time audiences will see Cruise in a starring role, in Stanley Kubrick's *Eyes Wide Shut*, won't occur until this December, two full years later — if then.

Kubrick, under an extraordinary net of secrecy, has spent more than 15 months meticulously assembling *Eyes Wide Shut* even as the film world has grown increasingly puzzled over why it is taking so long. The wait appeared to grow even longer this week as Kubrick rescheduled several actors — including Cruise and his wife, Nicole Kidman — back to England next month for more reshoots.

That Hollywood would have to go two full years between Cruise films has proved to be an agonizing wait for the studios.

"I think everyone wants him in a movie and he hasn't been available," lamented one studio executive. "We've lost one of the biggest superstars for 15 months while he's been making this movie." In that time, the executive added, Cruise

could have starred in two films.

Warner Bros., meanwhile, had released a statement from Kubrick late last week saying: "Because of schedule conflicts, Jennifer Jason Leigh, currently filming in Canada with David Cronenberg, will be unavailable to do a few days of shooting on the cameo scene she played with Tom Cruise in *Eyes Wide Shut*."

The director said Leigh would be replaced by Marie Richardson. Elaine Rich, Leigh's manager, said the actress was only a couple of weeks into filming *Existenz* for Cronenberg and would be unavailable for Kubrick.

"Her first responsibility now is to the movie she is shooting," Rich said.

But in an environment where everything beyond the list of cast members is grist for conjecture, any cast changes raises red flags.

Early on, for example, Harvey Keitel left the production after rumors leaked about tensions between the actor and Kubrick. Keitel was replaced by actor-director Sydney Pollack.

One Internet Web site that regularly chronicles gossip circulating around *Eyes Wide Shut* recently quoted an unnamed source as say-

ing that in February, Kubrick commissioned the construction of three new sets and that the budget has risen to \$55 million. There was even speculation that Warner Bros. executives would stop off in London on their way to the Cannes Film Festival this month and view a rough cut.

Speculation abounds over the script.

Written by Kubrick and veteran screenwriter Frederick Raphael (*Darling, Two for the Road*), some believe the film is based on an old novel by Viennese writer Arthur Schnitzler, who wrote *La Ronde*.

Those familiar with the book say it involves a doctor and his wife, living in Vienna, whose dreams penetrate their waking days. Kubrick has updated and relocated the story to New York City.

It is not surprising that Kubrick asked Cruise and others in the cast not to disclose details of *Eyes Wide Shut*. The producers of *Godzilla*, for instance, have gone to great pains to guard the likeness of their city-stomping monster from being made public before the film comes out this summer.

What is surprising is that Kubrick has successfully managed to keep the details of his film under wraps

while employing two of the world's highest-profile movie stars.

Since leaving the production, Kidman has gone off to film *Practical Magic* with Sandra Bullock. That film is scheduled to wrap early this month.

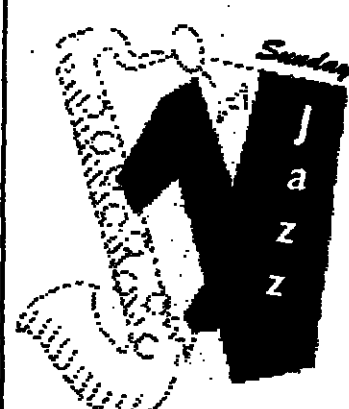
As for Cruise, the actor has yet to announce what his next project will be. Sources say he has all but committed to making the sequel to the hit 1996 high-tech spy thriller *Mission: Impossible*.

Cruise and his producing partner, Paula Wagner, would produce the sequel for Paramount Pictures, but as yet he has not signed off on the script. Sources say Cruise is in negotiations with John Woo to direct the movie, which would begin no later than this fall.

Cruise and Wagner are currently producing a film called *Without Limits*, about runner Steve Prefontaine, which Robert Towne wrote and directed. It is scheduled for release in September.

Despite the lingering mystery over *Eyes Wide Shut* and the fact that audiences might not see Cruise in his next venture until year's end, the studios are happy about one thing. "He hasn't lost any of his popularity," said one executive. (Los Angeles Times)

Betty at her best



By Calev Ben-David

It's hard to think of any vocalist in the world who deserves the appellation "jazz singer" more than Betty Carter. By that I mean a vocalist who truly uses her voice as a musical instrument, is dedicated to genuine collaboration only with jazz players of the highest standards, and who approaches each song as an opportunity for inspired improvisation.

INSIDE BETTY CARTER
Betty Carter
(NMC)

THE OFFBEAT OF AVENUES
The Manhattan Transfer
(NMC)

The 67-year-old Carter, who came of age in the late 1940s with the likes of Dizzy Gillespie and Charlie "Bird" Parker — and was nicknamed Betty "Bebop" for her unparalleled ability to scat — has remained true to the experimental spirit of that era, eschewing for the most part conventional melodic phrasing.

Unlike so many of her peers, you'll never find her belting out bland ballads backed by a sappy string arrangement, in a commercial attempt to reach a wider audience.

As a result, Carter's appeal has always been for hard-core jazz aficionados — which is a shame, given that hers is a talent

no less impressive than the likes of Ella Fitzgerald and Sarah Vaughan.

Also, as with so many real jazz artists, recordings can never do justice to the kind of thrilling experience Carter provides in live performance.

Several years ago I had the privilege of seeing her perform at the Red Sea Jazz Festival. Despite the fact that the temperature was already in the mid-30s (centigrade), Carter was so hot she turned the thermostat up several notches higher.

Now available here is *Inside Betty Carter* (NMC), a 15-track compilation of two of her studio sessions during the mid-1960s, including seven never-before-released songs in which she is backed by the great guitarist Kenny Burrell.

A mix of familiar tunes like "Isn't It Romantic?" and "The Moon Is Low," with such relatively obscure numbers as "New England" and her own composition, "Open the Door," this CD offers a fine display of the range and variety of Carter's astonishing ability.

To hear her vocally deconstruct into near-abstractation the sappy Rodgers and Hammerstein "My Favorite Things" with no less originality and verve than saxophonist John Coltrane does in his legendary rendition of the same song is to understand what jazz singing is all about.

Like I said, nothing matches Carter in live performance. But *Inside Betty Carter* is a worthwhile taste of a singer supreme.

If Betty Carter represents jazz singing at its most pure and uncompromising, then The Manhattan Transfer surely falls somewhere at the opposite end of the spectrum.

This popular vocal quartet (Tim Hauser, Alan Paul, Janis Siegel and Cheryl Benayne), famed for their four-part harmonies and snappy a cappella singing, have won wide crossover popularity with such boppy hits as "Down in Birdland."

As you might guess, I'm not among their legion of fans. For all their unquestionable skill and



Betty Carter

innate likability, The Manhattan Transfer has always struck me as an overly slick and inferior derivative of their obvious inspiration, the great vocal trio Lambert, Hendricks and Ross.

Still, you have to give their latest release, *The Offbeat of Avenues* (NMC), points for sheer variety in the number of musical styles they tackle. There's everything from a pseudo hip-hop rap number ("Sassy") to a tribute to old Max Fleisher cartoons from the 1930s, written and arranged by Van Dye Parks ("Blue Serenade"), to a collaboration with Donald Fagen ("Confide in Me") — one half of the pop group Steely Dan, whose jazz-lite noodlings bear comparison with The Manhattan Transfer.

There's no denying that the group has a cheery infectiousness that makes their live performances thoroughly enjoyable experiences, as I can attest to after having gladly attended their performance at the Israel Festival a few years back.

Fans of The Manhattan Transfer will certainly get their money's worth with *The Offbeat of Avenues*. But personally, I'd prefer to wait till someone gives me a free ticket to their next concert before listening to this group again.

Head for the Emergency Exit

Sabra Sounds



By Emily Hauser

Reviewers generally listen to a new album *ad nauseam* before rendering their opinion and, as a result, often experience one of the following: The first spin leaves them cold, but the album's excellence emerges on subsequent listenings, or they are initially charmed, only to find that the disc loses its thrill by the fourth

YETZIAT HEROOM
Yetziat Heroom
(NMC)
★★ 1/2

time around the CD player.

In the case of Yetziat Heroom (Emergency Exit) and the group's eponymously named debut album, this reviewer experienced the latter.

There is something very sincere to this disc, and that comes across immediately. But the truth is that good intentions can't carry 52 minutes of music on their own.

All right, *Yetziat Heroom* offers more than just good intentions. The CD is a pleasant example of Israeli soft-rock, featuring a wealth of casual musical references and its fair share of really good lyrics.

My favorite verse appears in the intentionally vague "Ahava ahat" ("One Love"): "And if you see her going by/ and she's wild/ and you don't understand what happened/ how the storm caught her/ her hair/ and took her to a terrible/ and today, she's only a terrible eye/ and it's strange how quiet her eyes are..."

Slowly but surely, however, Yossi Broshi and Alex Topel's processed vocals begin to sound tediously the same, and the music

begins to sound more derivative than influenced.

I was able to identify Pink Floyd, the Rolling Stones, the Cowboy Junkies, Mashina and Barry Sakharov. While I will admit that I have no way of knowing if any of these acts had any direct influence on Yetziat Heroom, surely it can't be good that this group sounds so much like them.

Moreover, when the boys try to confront social issues in their lyrics, the quality plummets. "Thousands of battered children," they sing in a song by the same name, "who have no voice/ addicts with eyes that have died/ for every rosy dream, there are a thousand that are black."

It's songwriting-as-didacticism, and it doesn't sound any better now than it did back in high school when we were surreptitiously writing songs in our notebooks.

I wish that Broshi and Topel had pushed themselves harder or had been more aggressively produced.

I suspect there's something of worth hiding behind all these good intentions, but it may require a second album to find its way out.

To Our Readers

Some of the advertisements appearing in our papers are type set outside The Post. When such an advertisement arrives just before the publication deadline, especially when it is provided in the form of a film, it is difficult for us to correct any spelling mistakes that may appear.

While we make every effort to correct such errors, we must ask our readers' indulgence for those occasions when this is not possible.

The Advertising Department

The greatest story ever sung

By MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

For the 50th anniversary of the State of Israel, the Tel Aviv University and Music Academy present a fully staged production (May 18-21) at the Noga Theater in Jaffa) of one of the more intriguing biblical operas in the repertoire.

Carl Nielsen's *Saul and David* (which premiered 1902 in Copenhagen) is a work that is rarely performed on the world's concert stages.

This is not one of the greatest operas in the repertoire, far from it, but the composer tries to follow the biblical story to its utmost.

Aside from the two protagonists, the opera features the prophet Samuel, Saul's daughter Michal, who is in love with the young David (they have a great duet), a reference to David's triumph over Goliath, Jonathan, and the Witch of Endor.

It is strange that the Bible has not been used more often as a source for opera plots. After all,

it has all the greatest ingredients the opera world cherishes so much — love, hate, betrayal, unequivocal belief, blood, sweat and tears.

But try to find real biblical operas and you are bound to fail.

For some reason or another — including the law that prevented biblical characters from being represented on the stage (in Handel's England, for example), the Bible does not reside in the opera world.

Yes, Schoenberg and Rossini both wrote Moses operas, but that about sums it up.

Obviously there are better works than *Saul and David*, but this upcoming production presents a great opportunity to hear such a work live in the theater.

The only pity is the choice of language in which the opera will be performed.

Once it was decided not to use the original Danish, the best and most natural choice would certainly have been Hebrew. English, however, was the language that was selected.

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

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Suharto must quit

It is difficult to comprehend why Indonesia's President Suharto is taking so long to quit and take his corrupt family with him. But then it may be a common failing of dictators to see writing on the wall, even when it is 10 meters high and written in blood.

As the toll in the riots over the weekend mounted to an appalling 500 dead, and while his own political party turned against him, Suharto continued clinging to the power that has brought his vast nation to ruin after 30 years of misrule. It was a belated seeing of the light for his Golkar Party, too — only in March did it shore up his crumbling authority when it rubber-stamped the mandate for his seventh term in office, even though it was obvious to almost every commentator at the time that Suharto would be lucky to last the year.

The tragedy is that now so much blood has been spilled and so much destruction wrought only to bring about the obvious — the end of the Suharto regime. Unfortunately, with the military leaders remaining ominously quiet while plotting their next move, it seems Indonesia might be fated for a new round of dictatorship rather than the democracy the demonstrating students and their followers naively believe will follow the collapse of Suharto.

Up to last night the army had failed to declare whether it was with the discredited president or with the people. By any measure of common sense, Suharto should have been placed under arrest when he scurried back from Egypt to announce a pathetic retreat from recent price increases on fuel and electricity. The price rises, which sparked the riots, were the last straw from a disgraceful family that is worth an estimated \$20 billion of wealth squeezed from the nation.

The shadowy military hierarchy of Indonesia should now resist the temptation to raise a new autocrat from its ranks. Instead they should make a courageous decision, just to help restore order and then let Indonesians forge a new and democratic millennium for themselves.

An encouraging development in the midst of chaos has been the formation of the so-called Council for the People's Mandate — a "council of critics" comprising economists, academics, Muslim clerics, judges, and media leaders — just the sort of educated modern talent Indonesia needs to gather into a coherent body to start governing the country properly.

It would be wise for the military to give the council a temporary blessing, but it appears the military may itself be fragmenting into groups siding with the people, and factions seeking only their own advantage.

The police at least seem to have veered into a cooperative mode with the student leaders, replacing the usual brutal confrontations that

always have marked any attempt to protest abuses in Indonesia.

The serious rioting and arson that have followed the political student protests is in danger of undermining their serious political agenda. Police cooperation in allowing the leaders to broadcast appeals for calm and an end to criminal violence at least was a welcome sign of a broad desire among law-abiding citizens for a genuine "people-power" revolution, such as that which rescued the Philippines from dictatorship.

But there is a danger that ambitious generals, backed by the money of Suharto's young fat-cat relatives, may yet use the arson and looting as an excuse to discredit the student and worker revolt and restore a similar or even worse regime.

When Suharto renewed his undemocratic mandate in March, most analysts agreed he was mounting not a throne, but a glowing mass of fissionable material. That was the only way to describe 200 million angry and disillusioned citizens fingering useless bank notes in an economy where rice and cooking oil had become the only hard currency.

Suharto replaced the Communist Sukarno three decades ago, accompanied by a wave of vicious massacres, as leader of a corrupt, bankrupt, and inflation-crippled nation. He and his family have since managed to transform the world's largest secular Moslem state into Asia's quintessential basket case of public abuse, national bankruptcy, and soaring inflation.

As for help from the rest of the world, there is little that can be done except to try restraining the military and encouraging the democrats by diplomatic and economic means. The crisis over India's defiant nuclear tests demonstrated — as do crises in Kosovo, Bosnia, Iraq, Africa, or the Middle East — that it is easy to talk of American or European superpower influence, but in matters of sovereignty, internal affairs, and outside interference, they are virtually powerless.

Direct intervention is out of the question — no one in their right mind would even suggest outside force to eject the Suharto cabal.

On the other hand, it is worth remembering that, when Sukarno was overthrown in 1966, Suharto's coup resulted in the death of half a million Indonesians. Avoiding any civil war among 200 million people demands a lot of international concern.

On the economic front, too, the explosion in Indonesia, a country with international debts, is yet another worrying tremor in the Asian sector of the global village.

Certainly something must be done, and quickly, but only Indonesians can do it. The best the world can hope is that this time they will do it the right — and democratic — way.

I, EZER WEIZMAN DO EAGERLY SWEAR



Dear brother Berl

DAVID WEINBERG

Dear hardi brother Berl: Politicians and the media have come down pretty hard on you haredim recently — not without justification, I might add. But since I'm not unsympathetic to your ultra-Orthodox way of life, here's some free advice, in your and my best interests:

1. Stay away from military cemeteries on Remembrance Day for the Fallen of Israel's Wars, especially formal national ceremonies. Yes, I know some haredim serve, and some have fallen, too. But until the overall "why-don't-the-ultra-Orthodox-serve-in-the-army" question is resolved or the tensions abate, your presence in these hallowed places on that mournful day pours salt on open wounds. Tell Rabbi Porush Jr.

2. Seek appropriate frameworks for ultra-Orthodox national service, before someone else does it for you. Get your rabbinical leadership to show some moderate leadership and back-up MK Rabbi Ravitz's proposals for army frameworks for older, married haredim who want to work, and for the minority of slouches who are just hiding out in the yeshivot as refuge from reality. Otherwise, the public is going to ram down your throat across-the-board conscription for all yeshiva boys, including those who really ought to continue learning Torah full-time.

3. Try a little volunteer national service. The kollel boys sure have enough vacation time to make this possible, without interfering with Gemara study. Let's do a little calculation: three weeks off from Yom Kippur to Rosh Hodesh Heshvan, one month off in Nisan around Pesach, three weeks vacation from Tisha Be'av to Rosh Hodesh Elul. In what other profession can you get off 10 weeks a year? That's lots of time for the Mir Yeshiva boys to push wheelchairs around the grounds of Laniado (haredi) Hospital, a kosher environment, in the frame-

work of national service.

4. Take a lesson from your ultra-Orthodox brethren abroad and get involved in society. In America today, there isn't a sector of business, industry, the arts, academia, or public achievement in which haredim aren't prominent leaders — without detracting one bit from their deep religious devotion or constant learning. Ultimately, that's the way to earn respect for Torah and the haredi way of life.

5. Institute a little discipline in the yeshiva world, with real attendance records, proper examinations, and a rigorous, mandatory curriculum to complete. Not because some government official wants to verify your books, but because it'll be good training for the young men.

Get used to having a real work schedule now. You can't come late to your hi-tech computer job because it's Rosh Hodesh or the intermediate days of a festival or *Ishu Hag* or your second cousin's third son's brit mila.

6. Choose your political leaders more carefully: men (how about a woman?) who will appropriately represent the kindness, ethical refinement, and devotion of most ultra-Orthodox Jews. Dump the brazen, in-your-face bullies like Jerusalem Deputy Mayor Haim Miller, whose smug arrogance and brutish absolutism alienate every watcher of the evening news. Does Miller really think he's so superior to the rest of us all? Or Shas's Benizri, who clearly believes that he, and only he, has a direct line to God?

7. Practice ethics in public service, as religious Jews. I cringe when reading the recent State Comptroller's Report, which fingers Deputy Housing Minister Porush as a central figure in the two main lacuna highlighted: corruption in public housing and

patronage appointments.

Most of our secular politicians are no better, but so what?

8. Rein in the hyperbolic, vitriolic haredi press. The language used regularly in *Hamodia*, *Yated Ne'eman*, and *Yom Leyom* clearly borders on incitement. (Who's always complaining about incitement?) And the defamation of Russian olim that has become standard fare in these papers is shocking.

9. Brush up on the Jewish religious sources of democracy and tolerance.

Look up the Abarbanel, Natzi, and the Rema, who demonstrate that Western concepts of human and individual rights, and democratic decision-making, are clearly rooted within tradition. For help, ask the Ayala Center's Judaism and Democracy Project at Bar-Ilan University's School of Education to send you a copy of their resource guide on this topic.

10. In politics, stick to your sectoral interests and don't try to dictate to the general public how to run its public square — at least not until your sector kicks in a little more in bearing the national burden. You may have been right about the blasphemy of the BatSheva dance troupe, at the jubilee, and perhaps even about Dana International, but at present you have no right to dictate to anyone in such public matters.

What's worse is that the haredi bull-in-a-china-shop behavior on these issues damages the ability of moderates on both sides of the religious-secular divide — the majority of the Israeli public, I argue — to reach accommodation and understanding on the ethos of appropriate public behavior. And we know that the civil war-mongering Milos are out there hungrily waiting to capitalize on your mistakes.

So start behaving a little more reasonably, dear brother Berl. Otherwise, your interests will suffer, and so will mine.

National unity now

DANIEL BLOCH

A government of national unity, or a grand coalition, is usually needed only at a time of war or in a situation of grave risk to the survival of a nation. Otherwise, it is best for a democracy to have a strong opposition that will be a watchdog and will supply a viable alternative solution to the policies and conduct of the government.

Nevertheless, there are a few rare cases when a unity government is vital, not just because of external dangers, but because of internal problems.

After the 1981 elections, when the Likud and Labor for the first time got almost an equal amount of votes, there was a suggestion of a coalition between the two big parties. Begin was for it. Peres and Rabin supported the idea, but it was rejected by the majority of Labor's leadership. What an historic mistake! Sharon would not have been minister of defense, there would not have been a Lebanese war, and inflation could have been curbed. Only in 1984 was such a government formed, enabling Israel to partially withdraw from Lebanon and stopping inflation to a large extent, but only after great suffering and a heavy price paid.

IN MANY ways, the situation today is quite similar to that of 1981-1982.

Israel stands at a crossroad between peace and war, there is need for a radically different economic policy, and the political extremes, both nationalist and ultra-Orthodox, are using their parliamentary clout to block the will of the majority on the issues of the peace process and social freedoms.

According to every recent opinion poll there is a clear majority of Israelis, including a comfortable Jewish majority, supporting the continuation of the peace process based on the Oslo Accords. There is also a clear parliamentary majority for further withdrawals — most of the Likud, all of Labor, Meretz. The Third Way, most of Yisrael Ba'Aliya, Gesher and even the majority of Shas — totaling not less than 80 MKs, before even adding the extreme Left. There is also a strong majority against further concessions to the demands of the haredim. The problem is the lack of among all the components of these majorities.

Some naive academics believed that direct election of the prime minister would give the moderate majority a strong and coherent leadership. How wrong they were: just the opposite occurred. Instead of strengthening the prime minister and the two main parties, it weakened them.

The last elections were just the beginning of the disasters yet to come. In the next elections there will certainly be more than two candidates and there will surely be a second round of voting, with the selling and buying of votes unprecedented in any Western democracy. The composition of the Knesset will be more divided with the two main parties together having less than a majority of the house.

The long-term solution lies in changing back the electoral system. In the meantime there is need for a new coalition based on an agreement between the two major parties that will advance peace with the Palestinians, open negotiations with Syria, get us out of Lebanon, and bring about an economic policy of full employment and growth. This coalition can stop the haredi pressure on the government and free resources for treating the severely neglected problems of our society, such as poverty and violence.

As an added benefit we will get rid of some badly placed ministers — first of all the minister of defense, who has lost all credibility in the way he handled the appointment of the new chief of General Staff. Secondly, new leadership is sorely needed in the economic field — a minister of finance who will stand against the anti-social and anti-growth policies of the Bank of Israel.

The idea of a big coalition should serve not as a political gimmick to frighten the extreme Right or as a ploy to damage the chances of a third candidate such as Ronni Milo. At this point there is a need for agreement between the two main parties for the formation of a stable government until the next general elections. If at any point in the next two years there is total disagreement in matters of the peace process, no side will try to form an alternative coalition. A general election would then take place, in which the voter would have a true choice between two different approaches to the main problem facing us — how to achieve a viable, lasting peace.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

GREAT ALARM

Sir, — As always, Prof. Inbar's articles in favor of the Turkey-Israel alliance are best understood by reading between the lines.

If, as he claims, it is the "secular elite" in Turkey that is pro-Western, then the masses are supporting the Islamic opposition and "Turkey's unprecedented friendship towards Israel" really means "the Turkish army's unprecedented..." He also writes Israel has also gained from Turkish arms purchases.

Will Prof. Inbar guarantee that these Israeli-made bombs and missiles will not rain down upon us after the Islamic wave finally engulfs Turkey?

If Cyprus is of "no consequence," then why is Turkey occupying close to 40% of the island with a huge force of 35,000 well-trained troops? Finally, his view that we can't "be friends with everyone" and that we should maintain our relationship with Turkey even if it "carries a diplomatic cost" must be viewed with great alarm.

ELI MINOFF
Israel-Cyprus Association.

Safed

FACILE POPULISM

Sir, — Evelyn Gordon is right on target arguing against the high ticket prices for cultural events in her opinion article "Let people choose" (May 12). Art should be accessible not just to the well-to-do.

Her main point, "let the people choose for themselves which artists to support," however, smacks of facile populism. In effect, it would bring, in a big way, the ratings mentality which governs commercial television channels. To go by the television example, this is hardly something to look forward to.

As history shows, quite a number of important creative personalities had been neither wealthy nor popular in their lifetime. By being able to work, though, they spiritually enriched the lives of their contemporaries and the coming generations beyond measure.

EMANUEL KRASOVSKY

Tel Aviv.

DISAPPOINTING FRONT PAGE

Sir, — In your "Israel at 50: Special Jubilee Independence Day Magazine," your publisher, Norman Spector, wrote: "On May 16, 1948, *The Palestine Post* informed its readers, in a dramatic banner headline: 'STATE OF ISRAEL IS BORN.'"

As with the birth of a baby, the celebration and announcement are always big news. Through its life the child grows, develops, and celebrates its special events, such as bar mitzvah, wedding, and certainly jubilee year!

So, why was a headline on Israel's jubilee year missing on the front page of *The Jerusalem Post*? The omission was both surprising and disappointing.

Do you call headline articles like "Currency reform announced" or "Cairo summit yields 'gloom'" a way to broadcast that Israel has succeeded in reaching its fiftieth birthday?

The cover of your supplement should have been the cover of the newspaper itself. Give credit where credit is due: Am Yisrael Hai!

MARLENE GOLDSTEIN

Haifa.

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

65 years ago: On May 17, 1933, *The Palestine Post* reported extensively on Iraqi King Faisal's visit to London. It was expected that he would discuss the building of a railway connecting Haifa with Baghdad — a five hundred mile journey which usually took about 23 hours by motor car. The *Post*, by special arrangement with Reuters, began the publication of Lloyd George's memoirs.

50 years ago: On May 17, 1948, *The Palestine Post* announced that the second day of

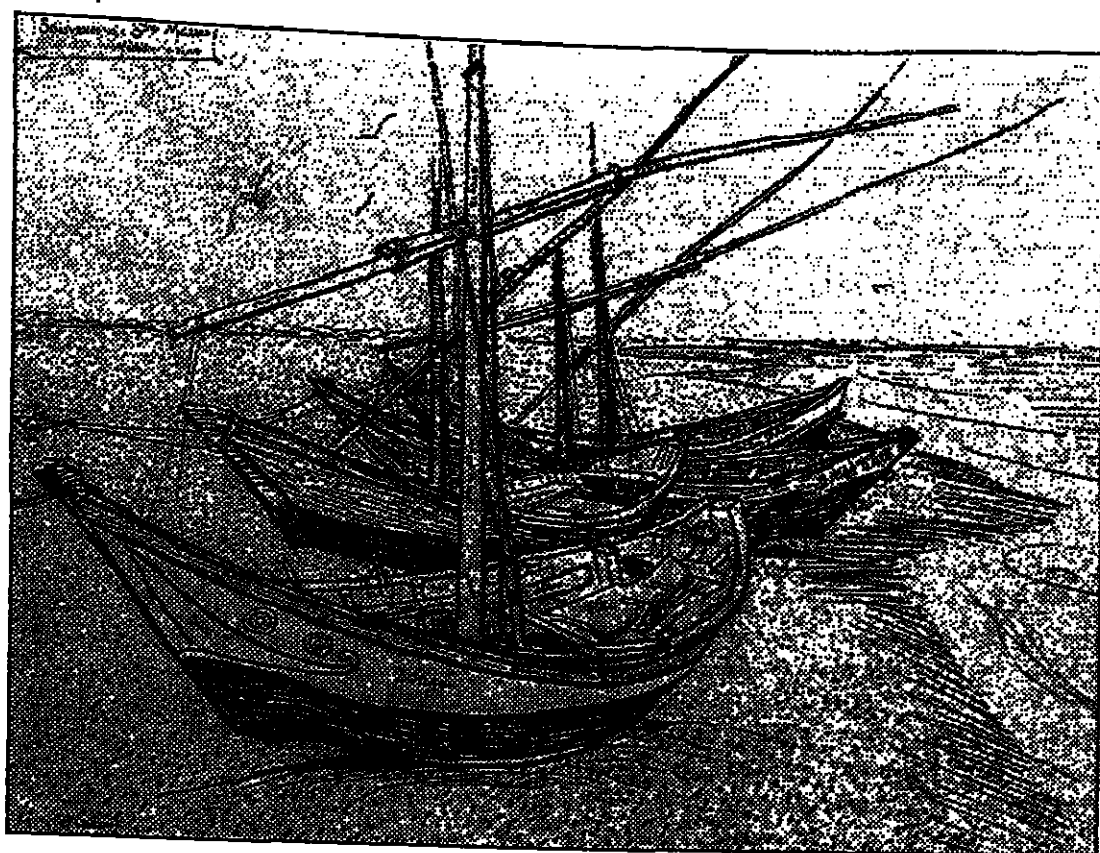
the State was marked by three additional air-raids on Tel Aviv, its provisional capital, while the advancing Arab Legion and the Egyptian army occupied towns and villages in Arab areas. A number of enemy planes were shot down. The battle for Jerusalem and an attempt to keep the road to Tel Aviv open continued.

(A day before, on May 16, *The Palestine Post* had proudly announced the birth of the Jewish state. The date fell on Shabbat

this year).

25 years ago: On May 17, 1973, *The Jerusalem Post* reported that prime minister Golda Meir warned the Egyptians against another round of hostilities. Referring to the war threats emanating from Cairo, she declared: "I can only say that I am truly and deeply sorry for what will happen to them and to anyone who tries to wage war against us."

Alexander Zvieli



Vincent van Gogh: 'Boats on the Beach at Saintes-Maries,' reed-pen and ink, 1888 (sold for \$5.06m. at Christie's New York)

Van Gogh's magic pen

AT THE AUCTIONS

A REED-PEN drawing by Vincent van Gogh, one of a number of studies done for one of his most popular paintings, *Fishing Boats at Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer*, 1888, brought a hefty but expected \$5.06 million at Christie's New York on May 5. The Van Gogh contains his notations as to which color to use in what area of the boats.

Just 31 of the 44 lots sold, but for a total of \$35.6m. An Asian bidder picked up Monet's lovely 1903 oil of *Waterloo Bridge in a London Fog* for an expected \$5.28m. It was possibly the same bidder who got a marvelously composed *fin d'siecle* Degas oil of a group of dancers for \$2.09m. An auction record for Gustave Courbet was set when his crusty *Gust of Wind*, 1885, nearly tripled its estimate at \$2.25m. The Berthe Morisot of a young woman seated next to a Venetian blind went for below its estimate, at a still respectable \$1.1m. A warm and lively piece of late Impressionism from 1910 by Spain's Joaquin Sorolla y Bastida, of young children on a sun-drenched Valencia beach, went for well over its estimate at \$882,500.

The second part of this sale, held on May 6, brought another \$11.3m, with 38 of the 155 lots, mostly minor works, going unsold. Renoir and Corot did well at these sales. Corot, by the way, looks better than ever. The thief who filched a Corot from the Louvre recently can only be congratulated on his discerning taste.

A sentimental, but extremely well done *Mother and Child* by Greek-born realist George Jakobides more than doubled its estimate at \$464,500, an auction record for this artist.

THE HUGE print sale at Sotheby's New York on May 1 of Old Master and 19th and 20th Century Prints, saw nearly 500 of the 705 lots sold, with major moderns topping their estimates. Total for the sale was \$5.75m. Edward Munch's *The Sick Girl* went for three times its estimate at \$332,500; and Picasso's *Woman with a Tambourine* (reproduced in this column) soared above its estimate at \$321,500. In its contemporary print show the following day, Sotheby's New York raised another \$2.75m. Topping their estimates was Jasper Johns's *Flags* (\$167,500) and David Hockney's

Image of Celia (\$90,000). Other prints by Diebenkorn, Motherwell, Fischl and Lichtenstein all topped their upper estimates.

A DOZEN auction records were set on the first day of Sotheby's May 7 sale in New York of 19th Century Paintings and Sculpture, including Barbizon and Belle Epoque lots. Total for the day was \$21m., a record in this field. One of the most sumptuous Belle Epoque oils ever sold, *Le Salon du Peintre*, by Albert Stevens, set an auction record for this artist at \$1.65m. Bourguereau's *The Grapes* went for its top estimate of \$1m. Among the Barbizon paintings, Jules Breton's rather sentimental *La Fin du Travail* topped its upper estimate at \$585,500.

LOOKING AT the catalogs of upcoming Christie's sales of 20th Century Art and Contemporary Art, the former, to my taste, wins hands down. Even better, many of the earlier modernist lots at the London May 21 sale are offered at considerably lower prices than the often merely quirky contemporary ones.

For instance I'd much rather have the splendid Vlaminck port scene (London, £30,000-£40,000) than an over-priced George Baselitz upside-down eagle (New York, June 3, \$450,000-\$650,000), even if they were the same price. In the London sale are some very fine paintings by Poliakoff and Soulages and an equally fine scrap sculpture by America's John Chamberlain from 1986 (£20,000-£30,000); and several utterly charming Calder mobile/stables. On the other hand I just can't get enthusiastic about the idea of bidding for works by Flanagan, Palladino, Judd, Flavin, Richter, Haring, Basquiat, Sherman and Schnabel. And will their prices really stand the test of time? I doubt it.

I'VE ALWAYS thought that painting should be either interesting or pleasurable, moving or revelatory or, better still, comprising something of all these qualities. Sotheby's Irish Sale in London this Thursday contains many fine glimpses of Ireland that are a delight, landscapes and genre scenes by Sir John Lavery, Paul Henry, William Leech, William Crampton Gore, Sir William Orpen, and Sir Stanley Spencer, as well as some interesting pieces of Irish expressionism by Louis Le Brocqy.

However, the sale is dominated



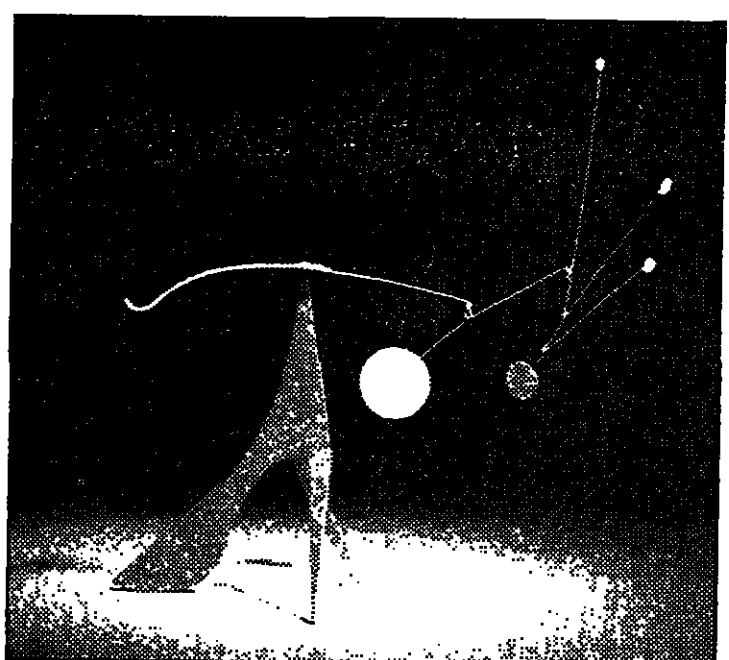
Mary Cassatt: 'A Kiss on Baby Ann,' pastel, 1897 (\$800,000-\$1.2m. at Sotheby's New York sale of American Art, May 20)

by 25 oils and watercolors by Ireland's modernist master, Jack B. Yeats (1871-1957), the most comprehensive view of his oeuvre ever seen at auction. Yeats's figurative but non-realist pictures are translations of slices of Irish life and some of the earlier ones, notably the Munch-like *Tralee*, 1924 (lot 365, £250,000-£350,000); *The Railway Bar* (lot 369, £50,000-£70,000); and the extraordinary painting of a girl standing in the aisle of a train *Singing Oh Had I the Wings of a Swallow* (lot 376, estimate only on request) are superb examples of his fluid, highly idiosyncratic handling and intensely personal vision of his countrymen.

I WOULDN'T recommend rushing to Sotheby's sale of more than 300 Old Master lots in New York this Thursday. There's a great deal of "attributed to," "school of," "after," "ascribed to" and "workshop of," etc. There is, however, a fine portrait of a man by the 16th century painter Joos van Cleve (lot 10, \$100,000-\$150,000) and another of an elegant young affable man ascribed to Barthel Bruyn the Elder, active in



Ascribed to Barthel Bruyn the Elder (1493-1555): 'Man with a Carnation' (\$20,000-\$30,000 at Sotheby's New York)



Alexander Calder: 'Two Legs and a Belly,' 1959 (£40,000-£50,000 at Christie's London, May 20)

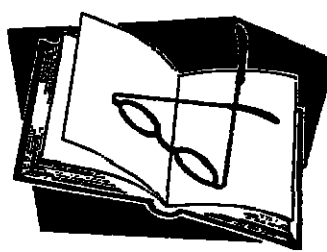
Cologne in the early 16th century (lot 62, \$20,000-\$30,000). Also of note is a charming little



'Gray waters' containing human waste are safe irrigation for cotton, sunflowers, rape seed, sorghum and fruit trees. (Andre Brumman)

Putting the 'civil' back in civilization

Book Review



By Gerald Renner

Civility: Manners, Morals and the Etiquette of Democracy, by Stephen L. Carter (Basic Books, \$25, 338 pp.)

Ever since his trenchant 1993 analysis *The Culture of Disbelief: How American Law and Politics Trivialize Religious Devotion*, Stephen L. Carter has become more than a preeminent social critic.

explored the elements of good character that must be part of the fabric of society if democracy is to work.

"I began with integrity because it is a virtue without which the others have no meaning," he explains. Now comes *Civility* because, he writes, "having developed integrity as a tool for creating our own moral selves, we must next develop tools for interacting with others."

Carter defines civility as more than good manners. Rules of civility, he argues, "are also rules of morality: It is morally proper to treat our fellow citizens with respect, and morally improper not to."

A former law clerk to US Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall, Carter shows how civil rights demonstrators moved a nation by remaining nonviolent, even losing, in the face of brutal repres-

With "nothing less than American democracy at stake," Stephen L. Carter's latest book talks about how to regain a sense of civility

The William Nelson Cromwell professor of law at Yale Law School is a voice of the national conscience. In lectures, articles, television appearances and books he paints a portrait of a venal society that celebrates winning at all costs, elevates commercialism to a creed, encourages selfishness, speaks in abusive language and wallows in sex and violence.

His jeremiad is almost biblical - and with reason.

Carter believes that nothing less than US democracy is at stake.

He acknowledges that every generation since the United States was founded has thought that civility was collapsing. But he says that this time "we might be right."

From visitors to volunteers to voters, everybody seems to be wondering why Americans treat each other so shabbily," he states in his latest book, *Civility*. The book is the second in a series that began in 1996 with *Integrity*, in which Carter

Such civility needs to inform our current political debates, particularly on such passionate issues as abortion, he asserts. (Carter amplifies his views on civil disobedience as necessary in a democracy in another new book, *The Dissent of the Governed*, published by Harvard University Press (\$19.95) in April.)

But how are we to teach the elements of civility to our children when everywhere they turn - movies, television, entertainment, sports, the marketplace - they are learning a different lesson?

Carter points to family, school and place of worship - the "three-legged stool" of character formation. They are admittedly weak, but unless they can be strengthened to do better than they have the professor paints a bleak picture for our democratic future.

What he suggests is needed is no less than a change of national attitude - a daunting task indeed. (The Hartford Courant)



The Knesset

On Monday, May 18, 1998, at 7:30 p.m., the inauguration ceremony of the President of Israel, Mr. Ezer Weizman, will be held at the Knesset. From 3:00 p.m. until the conclusion of the Knesset session and reception (approximately 9:30 p.m.), permanent Knesset passes will not be valid. Admission to the Knesset will be permitted to invitation holders only.



Customs and VAT Department
Material Resources Department
Tel. 02-670-3482/3

Tender 10/98

Renovation of the Fourth Floor, Customs and VAT Management Offices, 32 Rehov Agron, Jerusalem

Bids are invited for renovation work of the fourth floor of the Customs and VAT Management Offices 32 Rehov Agron, Jerusalem, as detailed in the tender documents:

- The technical specifications and tender forms can be obtained against payment of NIS 250, including VAT (non-refundable) at the Material Resources Department, 32 Rehov Agron, Tel. 02-670-3482, Sunday-Thursday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
- The sum can be paid at Post Office branches, to the credit of Account No. 0-050055. A bid submitted without the receipt for this amount will not be considered.
- Pre-conditions documents required for participation in the tender:
 - A copy of the bidder's authorized trade certificate for VAT purposes.
 - Confirmation or copy of authorization certified by an income tax official or accountant that the bidder keeps account books in accordance with the Income Tax Ordinance.
 - Confirmation that the contractor is registered in the Register of Contractors.
 - Confirmation that the bidder is a contractor, registered by the Interministerial Commission, and marked with an asterisk.
 - A list of works of similar scale, carried out by the bidder.
 - At least three references.
 - Bank guarantee/bank check for NIS 20,000, guaranteeing the bid, which is valid until November 15, 1998.
 - Participation in a guided tour, as detailed below in Para. 6.
- The bidder must attach all the above-mentioned documents and/or confirmations proving that he meets the tender pre-conditions.
- If all the documents are not submitted, the bid will not be considered.
- The guided tour will take place on June 3, 1998 at 10 a.m., meeting at the entrance to the Customs House, 32 Rehov Agron, Jerusalem.
- Bids should be submitted in a sealed envelope, marked "Tender 10/98," by 12 noon on June 22, 1998 and placed in the tenders box at the Customs Management offices, 32 Rehov Agron, P.O.B. 320, Jerusalem 91002.
- The right is reserved to negotiate with any of the bidders.
- The right is reserved to select a number of different bids, splitting the bid among the bidders.
- The right is reserved to invite the bidders (or some of them) for clarifications. This does not constitute any obligation on the part of the Customs and VAT Department.
- No undertaking is given to accept the lowest or any bid, in whole or in part.

Sewage treatment is getting trickier

Earthly Concerns



By D'vora Ben Shaul

Every year the problem of how to dispose of human waste grows more critical. And every year more and more people try to deal with the problem.

Unlike former times, once the waste has undergone treatment it cannot be shunted into rivers or seas. Because of this the experts have returned to the oldest and most basic disposal of all.

Use it to fertilize the land. For many, this calls up visions of the southeast Asia, where the euphemistically termed "night soil" is used to fertilize the crops and the "honey bucket" symbol-

izes a level of primitive agriculture no one wants to think about.

But the fact is that throughout the Western world, and definitely in Israel, the effluents from human waste are already in wide usage.

These so-called "gray waters" are used to irrigate fields of cotton, sunflowers, rape seed, sorghum and fruit trees - in fact, anywhere that the actual edible vegetable or fruit does not come into direct contact with the sewage water. Exempt from this are all the low-growing vegetables and fruits such as lettuce, carrots, potatoes, cabbage and strawberries.

But now the experts are turning their attention to solid waste.

After certain treatment, the danger of pathogenic bacteria, viruses and parasites is reduced to a minimum, and sewage sludge can be - and indeed is being - used in many countries as a fertilizer for crops.

To date, we are not using this material, but we too are running out of places to dump it.

The use of sewage sludge has quadrupled in the Western world during the past decade, and many experts see it as quadrupling yet

again in the next few years. There is little danger of pathogenic, viral or parasitic contamination and all should be well.

But it isn't. The problem that has arisen has nothing to do with the cleanliness or otherwise of the effluents or the sludge. The problem is the variegated nature of sewage effluents wherein industrial waste and some household chemicals combine to make a deadly cocktail that may well be carcinogenic, mutagenic or teratogenic.

These are long words. What they mean is that they may cause cancers, mutations or harm to embryos.

It is this and not the ancient fear of disease that is making many experts take a fresh look at the problem.

Some have already suggested divided sewage lines in which the effluents from industry, laden with PCBs and heavy metals, would be separated from what is now seen as just simple human waste.

'Cosmic cuisine:' Food that's just out of this world

By RICK WEISS

Wearing a towering chef's toque and double-breasted white tunic, Adriana Rovers stands in the doorway of a hushed room on the Cornell University campus, watching nervously as a dozen men and women pick at the food she's just served them. Like every cook, she wants her guests to like what she's prepared.

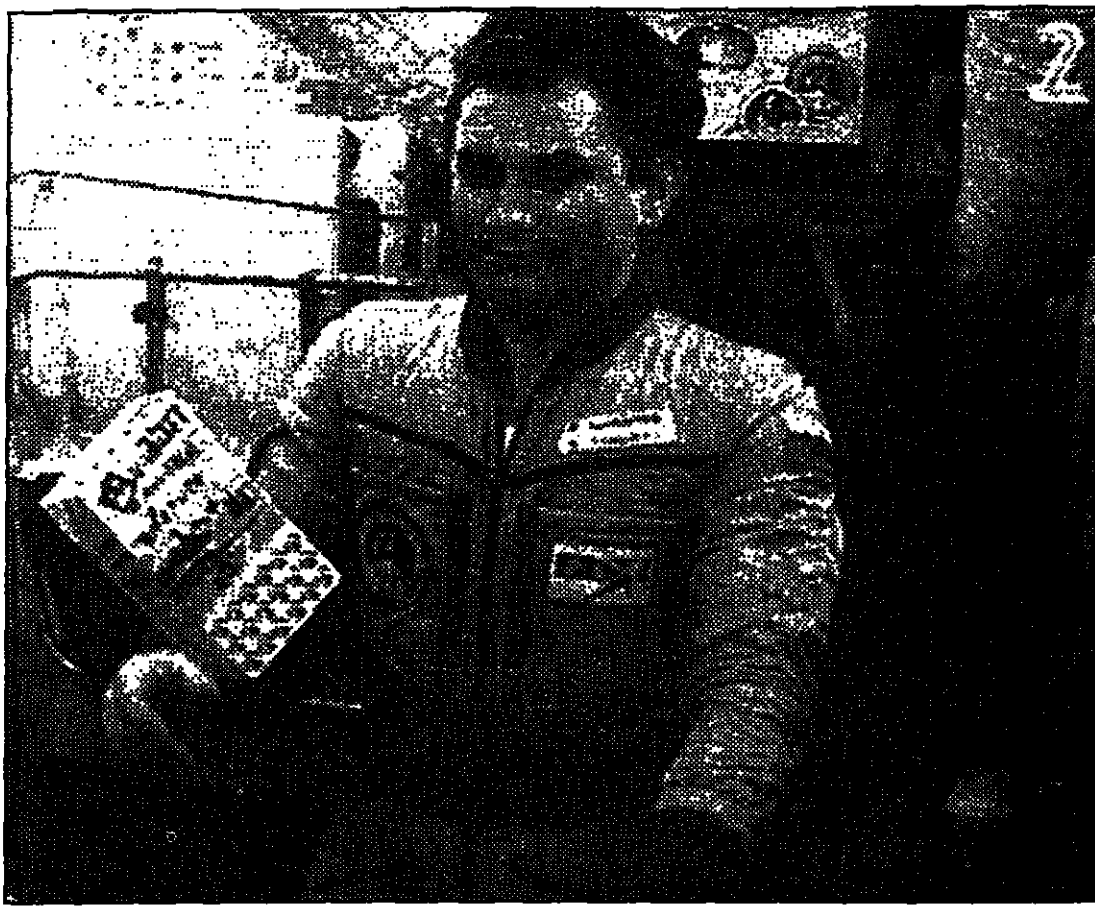
But she is under some extraordinary constraints. Rovers is part of a National Aeronautics and Space Administration project to develop recipes for astronauts who will spend months at a time on the moon or Mars. She must use only ingredients made from plants that can be grown in microgravity hydroponic gardens — stuff like soybean curd and wheat gluten and enzymatically predigested moldy rice.

That explains why one of the six dishes being served at today's tasting is, let's face it, a big blob of greenish-yellow moosh, with a sprig of parsley placed hopefully on the side. It is a dish that one of the tasters will later describe as "annoying." Yet most of the food is surprisingly good. There is a quiche-like thing filled with spinach and tofu and onion and basil worthy of any highbrow vegetarian restaurant. And the creamy mustard vinaigrette, served on Boston lettuce, glides effortlessly over the taste buds and leaves only pleasure in its soy-based wake.

Two dozen volunteers show up every week over several months to taste and judge the latest creations in two 12-person shifts, sitting at little tables with high walls to avoid distractions while they taste the daily fare and fill out a six-page questionnaire on each dish.

Some of the survey questions are predictable, relating to the food's flavor or appearance. But others serve as a reminder that this is really a matter of starting from scratch, of inventing foods and dishes with no earthly counterpart — for example, "What time of day do you think this product should be consumed?" Tough call, when it comes to tepid, greenish-yellow moosh. "For some things, many people say, 'There's no time of day I'd eat it,'" conceded Jean Hunter, the professor of agricultural and biological engineering in charge of the study.

You don't have to be a rocket



The famous Tnuva milk ad that was filmed aboard the Mir space shuttle caused quite a stir — but milk will not really be an option for astronauts. (David Rubinger)

scientist to know that food, already a focal point of pleasure on the home planet, will become a near obsession in space. With no movie theater, visits from friends or shopping malls, what else will there be to look forward to in the evening after a hard day of hitting golf balls across the tranquil, low-gravity plains? NASA is already taking seriously the task of developing menus for 21st-century missions to the moon and Mars, some of which, as currently conceived, would call for two-year stints away from Earth.

The problem is bigger than just keeping the crews' spirits up. If the astronauts don't eat well, they will lose their strength and perhaps even their health. Except during the Skylab mission in the early Seventies (whose astronauts fared better because they had a refrigerator and freezer and because they promised the dietitians they'd eat everything on their plate), astronauts spending prolonged periods

in space have uniformly failed to meet their basic nutritional needs, Hunter says.

Happily, menu planning for a moon base is in some ways less challenging than for a space station or shuttle flight. There will be enough gravity, at least, to keep food in a pot — although deep-fat frying is out. Hunter says, because on the moon fat will spatter six times as far. That means astronauts won't have to squeeze meals from tubes or chew freeze-dried room-temperature ice cream.

Still, the task is tricky. Dietary salt must be kept to a minimum because it accelerates bone loss, which is already a problem for people in space. Spices must be pumped up a little because, for reasons that remain unclear, taste buds tend to become less sensitive in space. And, although every chef knows that presentation is everything, appearance will count even more for astronauts because, in the sensory emptiness of space, the visual system becomes

the dominant means of stirring up an appetite.

The aim of the Cornell project and various other NASA-sponsored food studies is not only to develop and taste-test nutritionally adequate recipes made from produce that can be grown in space, but also to analyze the amount of labor and energy required to grow, process, prepare and cook that food. Sophisticated computer programs balance nutritional values and energy costs to decide which foods are worth growing and eating aloft. Raising animals in space is impractical, so forget about meat, milk and all those flavorful animal fats.

Plants will be grown in hydroponic gardens — water-filled troughs resembling rain gutters — under 400-watt, high-pressure sodium lamps like those used as street lights on Earth. Alas, not all plants can grow under those conditions. For one thing, some plants cannot reproduce without insects

to pollinate them, and no one wants to take bees to Mars. So for now, at least, the planned staples are wheat, potatoes, sweet potatoes, soy, peanuts, chard, various cabbages, lettuce, tomatoes, carrots, quinoa and probably some rice and other vegetables. Some of these plants will have to be specially bred for astro-culture; priorities will include shorter stalks to accommodate low-ceilinged growth chambers and an adaptability to light-dark cycles that differ from our own planet's 24-hour day.

Then comes the challenge to make it all taste good. Hunter has had some good training in that area. Her mother, a top-notch cook with a quirky sense of humor, had a personal lifelong challenge to get people to eat foods they thought they could not stomach. "In a way we're doing the same thing with astronauts," Hunter says. As a meat substitute, several dishes include pieces of seitan, a protein-rich wheat-gluten product that has a consistency something like a fried, plump noodle.

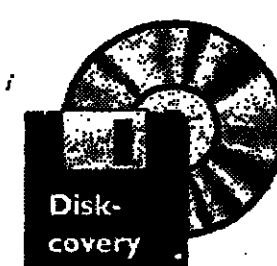
One major problem still looms on the interplanetary horizon: dessert. Despite their mightiest efforts, the Ithaca researchers have been unable to come up with truly mouth-watering desserts without relying upon unacceptably large volumes of Earth-based sweeteners. Astronauts typically get weaned to about 50 grams a day (less than half they would eat on earth), but even that would add up to a serious payload of imported sugar for a long-term Mars colony, and NASA is unwilling to launch a separate sister ship just to ferry the astronauts' cookies and cakes. Now the Cornell space cooks have put desserts on hold while they experiment with alternative sweeteners. One promising approach: use molds or enzymes to ferment a blend of wheat bran and wheat starch.

Meanwhile, Rovers continues to dream up new ideas to keep the next generation of American pioneers content as they explore the wild and airless frontier. One thing she'd like to add to the menu is edible flowers. Pansies, nasturtiums and other flowers can be tossed together in a salad, adding flavor and fragrance and a splash of color. "It would be a wonderful experience," Rovers says. "To eat edible flowers on Mars." (The Washington Post)



Sweetchild's 'Stamps of Israel' program bears the stamps of excellence.

Philatelic wonders on CD-ROM



By Judy Siegel-Itzkovich

Stamps of Israel: Encyclopedia and Catalogue, a CD-ROM in English by Sweetchild Software, Jerusalem (www.sweetchild.com), requires Windows '95, for all ages, NIS 299, from The Jerusalem Post Book Department or from Sweetchild, with a 15% discount during this week's philatelic exhibition in Tel Aviv.

Rating: five stars out of five

One would hope that stamps — little bits of paper that, per square centimeter, explain more about a country than posters or photographs — won't be rendered obsolete by digital technology. People are increasingly sending e-mail, and when they do dispatch an envelope via "snail mail," the post office is just as likely to affix a dull postal sticker as a colorful stamp.

This excellent program will either stimulate the collection of Israeli stamps around the world — or serve the next generation as testimony to the bygone era of stamp collecting. Sweetchild, which has already produced well-done digital collections of kosher recipes and Judaica, created the stamp program in English only, but if there is a local demand, it will translate it into Hebrew.

A useful help menu explains that the disk presents a breathtaking view of Jewish history, world affairs and shared Jewish concerns as reflected in Israeli stamps — from the struggle for independence to the path to peace. A complete album of all stamps produced in this country is presented in full color, from the first green Doar Iyri (issued on May 16, 1948) to the stamp in memory of the late president Chaim Herzog (released only a few weeks ago). The collection can be sorted alphabetically or by date.

Each of the many hundreds of entries is catalogued with details on when and how many stamps were issued and taken out of circulation, the type of perforation and the name of the designer. Click on the article section to get a longer explanation of the theme; there is a convenient option of large, medium or normal sized text. Users can click on the mouse to zoom in and show the stamp on the entire computer screen, printing it out in this enlarged or a reduced size.

Serious philatelists can track their own collection of Israeli stamps, entering in the appropriate information, at what price they purchased a particular stamp and what the market price is. Reports on their collections can easily be printed out.

The program makes it easy to conduct searches for stamps on a given theme, using Boolean logic, "wild cards" (part of a word) and proximity. Write the word "science," for example, and you'll be presented with a long, viewable list of stamps that relate to this theme. Click a button for an immediate link to Internet sites on Israeli stamps, including those of the Israel Philatelic Federation (for whom Sweetchild produced the CD-ROM) and the Postal Authority's Philatelic Service. Postal "stationery" — first-day covers, souvenir sheets, postcards and other philatelic paraphernalia aside from ordinary stamps — are also catalogued,

with the option of printing them out as well.

Children and teenagers will probably enjoy the puzzles, in which Israeli stamps split into nine, 16 or 25 pieces that have to be put together again. There is also a quiz, containing hundreds of intelligent multiple choice questions based on Israeli and Jewish history and the country's stamps. Points are given for correct answers, which are also rewarded with a high-pitched tone when chosen (incorrect choices make a low-toned noise when chosen).

The only thing missing from the disk is a short history of stamp collecting and production, which could have put the Israeli philatelic experience in perspective.

Ha'taklir La'mishpaha (The Family Disk), a CD-ROM in Hebrew, by the Romtech company, distributed by Steimatzky, for ages five to 120, NIS 299.

Rating: one star out of five

The failure of this disk — conceived as offering something for everyone in the family — is well illustrated by its recipes for making cocktails named "orgasm" (using coffee liquor, Irish cream and sweet cream) and "the virgin's prayer" (gin, cologne and lemon juice). Recipes for mixed drinks certainly don't belong in a piece of software aimed at users as young as five. Software companies proved long ago that CD-ROMs are best targeted at specific age groups. Hodge-podge like this, which try to justify a stiff price by its "variety," are misconceived.

Using primitive graphics and interfaces throughout, the disk has five parts: the wines, liquor and cocktail guide; a talking morphological Hebrew-English and English-Hebrew dictionary; a computerized version of the Steimatzky lexicon; a collection of 1,000 sentences in five languages meant for travelers; a talking dictionary of 5,000 practical words in Hebrew, English, French, Spanish and German; and two types of word games. Romtech would have been better off presenting each feature more attractively in a separate, cheap disk, rather than mixing all of them up together.

The morphological dictionary allows users to enter Hebrew words and look up their English translation. If they were designed like the outstanding *Rev-Milim* Hebrew-Hebrew dictionary on CD-ROM, it would be a serious product, but this isn't. The lexicon offers tens of thousands of short entries categorized in a handful of major topics, such as politics, Judaism, history, art, science and technology. Choose a topic and you get sub-topics, which lead to an additional choice of sub-topics with related words. Each is defined in one or two short Hebrew sentences. Again, a book would be better.

The tourist conversation guide provides common expressions about hotels, food, telephones, medical care and emergencies and sounds them out in four non-Hebrew languages, but this too is a minor achievement, and the small, primitive font used is very unattractive. Ditto for the word games test knowledge culled from the lexicon and are presented as a type of crossword and a guessing game with hints.

Instead of this disk, try a book on any of these subjects: they're portable, lightweight and more practical for a traveler than a computer disk. And to amuse the kids in the back seat of the car or on the plane, buy them an electronic game or one of those cheap toys that squirt water to propel plastic balls into hoops.

TELL ME WHY

Appreciating the beauty of seedless fruits

By JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

There are all kinds of seedless fruits on the market, from grapes to tangerines. How is this done? Is it possible to produce seedless apples as well, so that you don't have to cut out the core before eating it? Miri, Rehovot.

Dr. Yuval Aschad, director of the Horticulture Institute of the Volcani Institute for Agricultural Research at Beit Dagan, replies:

Agricultural researchers like ourselves can develop new varieties of fruit by crossing those that bear the desirable qualities. This is done manually, by dusting pollen from one type with a brush onto the stigma of the other. We are careful to cover the blossoms with paper bags, when necessary, to prevent foreign pollen from getting in to fertilize them. This produces fruits whose seeds are used for growing into plants, some of which will produce seedless fruits.

Once a tree bearing high-quality, seedless fruit has been produced, it can be multiplied for farming by grafting. A root-stock suited to local soil conditions is taken and grafted with a bud taken from a seedless variety, as in an operation. Today, most farmers plant grafted young plants in their fields anyway,

whether the fruit is seedless or not.

In the future, using genetic engineering, seeds will be uniquely destroyed at the very early stages of their development, thus producing seedless fruits.

In principle, these techniques can be used on any type of fruit, including apples. But we haven't tried this, apparently because apple seeds don't "disturb" consumers or the food processing industry — unlike grapes, citrus or tomatoes. Volcani scientists are currently working on new seedless varieties of citrus fruits and grapes, as well as vegetables like tomatoes, and on minimizing the size of lychee and avocado seeds to leave more room for the edible part of the fruit.

I've noticed that whenever women and men are in the same place outdoors or in an air-conditioned room, women complain about the cold more. Do women have a slower metabolism that makes this so? Women have more body fat, so shouldn't that keep them warmer? Batya, Haifa.

Dr. Na'ama Constantini, a family physician and sports medicine expert at the Wingate Institute for Physical Education in Netanya, comments:

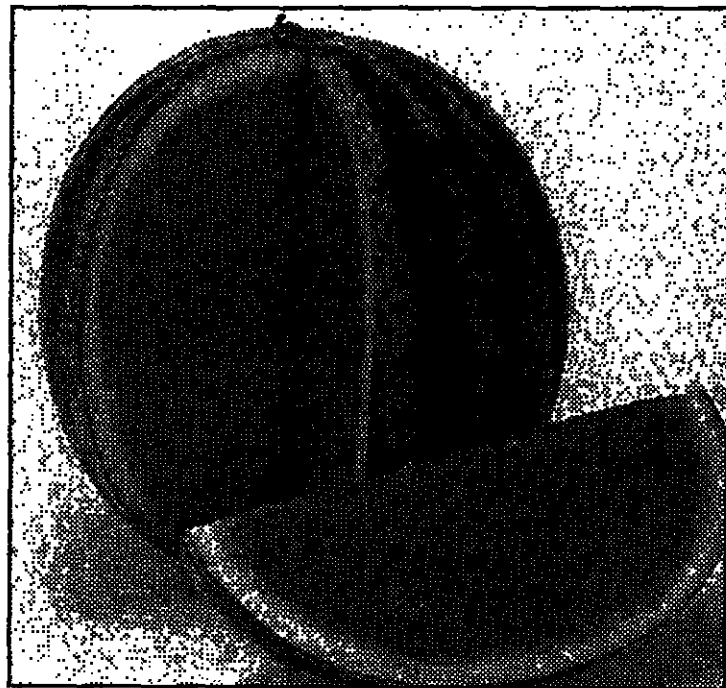
There are many factors involved

here. It could be the result of the different types of clothing that the two sexes wear. But if you look at physiology, women generally have more body fat than men, which is more widely dispersed, while men have more muscle tissue (especially in the legs and arms). In ordinary temperatures, body fat provides good insulation, but in more extreme conditions muscles warm the body well because the muscles shiver, causing calories to burn and releasing heat.

Men will be warmer in their extremities due to their greater muscle mass; they also generally weigh more so, when they're really cold, the muscles produce more heat than women's do. Skin temperature drops faster in women than in men, but women's core temperature (inside the body) is preserved better in women because of their body fat.

There are no differences between the sexes in metabolism on a cellular level. There are hormonal differences: the body temperature of fertile women rises somewhat after ovulation, but this is not significant — and there is no difference after menopause.

Have you always wondered about the scientific explanation for ordinary phenomena? Now you



Seedless watermelon: With no time spent on digging out pits, there's more opportunity for sheer enjoyment.

can get an answer. Mail your question to TELL ME WHY, The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem, fax it to (02) 538-9527, or send it by e-mail to jusie@post.co.il. Please include your first name and place of residence.

Researcher looks for feather in his cap

By DENNIS O'BRIEN

Walter Schmidt had a ticklish problem to do with America's chicken feathers. The US poultry industry produces up to 2 billion kilos of feathers each year, and Schmidt, a research chemist at Beltsville Agricultural Research Center in Maryland, was assigned in 1993 to come up with a way to dispose of them. But now he and a team of four scientists think they have figured out a solution: recycle the feathers into disposable diapers and building insulation.

Chicken feathers are made of a fibrous protein called keratin, the same fiber found in wool, hair and fingernails. The fibers are rounded straight, which makes them absorbent enough to be used as a raw material in a \$1 billion-a-year industry producing insulation materials, disposable diapers and air filters for trucks and factories.

"My sense is that once people realize the viability of this as a product, the market will

just take off with it," he said as he handled a piece of the hard, spongelike fabric produced in his lab.

Diapers, for instance, are made from chemically treated cellulose, which is the base material in many paper products. Experiments with feather-made disposable diapers have proved promising. Lixi Inc., an Illinois manufacturing company that makes specialized equipment for the diaper industry, agreed about 18 months ago to accept 220 kilos of chicken feathers, which had been plucked and washed by hand at Beltsville, to determine whether they could be used to make diapers, said Lixi president Joseph Pascenti.

The process worked well enough that Lixi wanted more feathers. "If we had a supply of them, we'd be able to use them right now," Pascenti said. To supply Lixi or any other manufacturer regularly with sufficient feather fibers, machinery must be designed and built that can pluck a huge amount of feathers, separate the fibers from the quills and wash them, Schmidt said. "The time and labor

involved in washing the feathers by hand and separating the fibers just doesn't make it cost-effective," said Schmidt. The technology has yet to be developed, but the concept is far enough along that Schmidt and his team have been granted a patent on the fiber separation process from the US Patent Office.

The US Department of Agriculture is advertising in trade journals for a manufacturer to build a pilot plant capable of separating fibers from quills and washing the feathers, he said.

"It's only a matter of time before the technology is developed," Schmidt said.

Recycling feathers for other uses is nothing new. Most chicken feathers are ground up and used as an additive in chicken and cattle feed. But the feed is low-quality and unprofitable to produce, and over a million kilos of feathers are left over each year. People have plucked, washed and used down feathers from ducks and other birds for pillows and parkas for hundreds of years, Schmidt said. Down feathers have smaller quills than chick-

en feathers and can be easily ground up for such uses, he said. Schmidt said his team's work means that usable feathers can come from any kind of bird. Commercially bred chickens have an advantage, Schmidt said. "They're bred to have white feathers, so you have that built-in color control."

Michael Blanchard, product-development manager for Tyson Foods in Springdale, Arkansas, said Schmidt's work might help the poultry industry keep down costs. "What it should do is increase the demand for the feathers and raise the value of them for us," Blanchard said.

Schmidt said the key lies in the chemical structure of the feather fibers, which have the same feel as microcrystalline cellulose, the base material used to make paper. But their chemical composition makes them more absorbent than many paper-based products, he added. "People don't think of feathers as fibers, but that's exactly what they are, and that gives them tremendous potential," he said. (The Baltimore Sun)

Pai

When m

Genetical

Painless way to get a second opinion

By JUDY SEGEL-ITZKOVICH

As patients tend less to regard their physicians as omniscient, the demand for a second medical opinion is growing.

Perhaps you've been advised that you need an operation; or you have a chronic medical problem that hasn't improved after taking prescribed medication; or an experimental treatment has been offered for your condition. In any of these cases – or even when you're worried about your health despite being given a clean bill of health – consulting with an independent medical expert is an option.

Some patients, especially if they're elderly, worry that going over the head of their personal physician might insult him/her, while others don't know how to go about asking another doctor about their problem. There are doctors who discourage patients – especially private ones – from consulting with a colleague, out of fear that the patient will be "stolen" from them.

Getting a second opinion, how-

ever, has become much easier. A Ramat Gan company (appropriately called Second Opinion (on the Internet at <http://www.second-opinion.com>) already has 750,000 families that may opt for the service; some of them may not even be aware of it.

Second Opinion, a subsidiary of the S.H.R. Group founded in 1989 by Yeshoshua Levy, offers its services via large organizations, such as insurance companies, banks, pension funds and credit card firms. These large groups pay a set amount to include all their members or customers in the arrangement, which is offered as a free "rider" – an additional service that adds extra value to the principal service and makes it unique, compared to that offered by competitors. Among the companies that have signed with Second Opinion are American Express, the Zion, Clal and Eitan insurance companies, and Bank Discount's benevolent fund.

Recent technological advances, such as the laying of ISDN (integrated services digital network) lines and digitization of medical records, have given much impetus

to telemedicine, says Eldad Halevy, president of Second Opinion and son of the S.H.R. Group chairman. "The technology we use has proven bug-free, so it has received approval of the US Food and Drug Administration."

Legally based in Amsterdam, Second Opinion has established a number of offices around the world, so it offers telemedicine services not only to Israelis but to other national groups, including Britons (where Lord David Young, former chairman of Cable & Wireless, is a local partner). Russians, Czechs and Hungarians, and branches have been or will soon open in Slovenia, Athens, Johannesburg, Milan, Paris, Seoul, Manila and Bombay.

A study by the Rand Corporation in California has found that a quarter to a third of all operations are completely unjustified, or the benefits are in doubt," says Halevy. "There are many diagnostic errors, and two heads are better than one."

Second opinions are provided by specialists at the University of California at San Francisco's Medical Center and at Stanford

University Medical Center – rated among the top 10 medical centers in the US – and negotiations are proceeding with other hospitals on the East Coast. Second Opinion is the first worldwide telemedicine network in the world, Halevy claims.

"If an Israeli subscriber has been to his own physician and wants a second opinion from abroad, all he has to do is contact our office director, who speaks fluent English and Hebrew, and give him the relevant files and scans (ultrasound, x-ray, magnetic resonance instrument and computerized tomography). The material will be prepared in a suitable form and sent via ISDN to one of our specialists abroad."

Halevy adds that his company was "pleasantly surprised not to face opposition from local doctors. During the past two years, we've done 1,000 telemedicine sessions, and if doctors here don't fear losing a patient to a colleague, they are very helpful."

Halevy explains that the average Israeli doctor surpasses the average US doctor in knowledge and skills, but specialists in the top

American medical centers have the advantage of seeing a greater variety of cases, including rare conditions that are less likely to be encountered by a doctor in a small country like Israel.

The medical files are transmitted overnight by e-mail to the consulting specialist, who studies the files in his or her free time. The US doctor can click his computer mouse and zoom in; a special program can add color that differentiates between a benign or malignant tumor or blood and heart muscle.

Video photos are expensive and time consuming to download, but the doctor can select relevant frames from the video image and view them sequentially, turning them into a moving picture. An ultrasound image of a beating heart reconstructed in this way looks just like the real thing. The second opinion is transmitted back to the patient and his personal physician within 48 hours – and even before 24 hours have passed in an emergency.

If the scans are not of suitable quality, the specialist will ask for new ones. If the patient has to be seen by the consultant, Second

Opinion will place him before videoconferencing cameras so he can be viewed from afar.

"This doesn't come at the expense of actually touching and examining the patient," Halevy asserts. "The patient's personal physician has done this and written everything down in the records. The US consultant assesses the raw material."

The patient pays nothing for the service, except for a service fee, which ranges from \$50 for a mammography assessment to \$89 for a CT and \$149 for an echo cardiography or histology consultation. This money is forwarded to the foreign consultant. Second Opinion's income comes from global membership agreements signed by the large organizations.

Individuals cannot subscribe directly to the service, but they may ask for a one-time second opinion for a much higher price, ranging from \$400 for a mammography assessment and \$600 for an echo cardiography consultation. Halevy notes that Israeli subscribers travelling abroad can make use of Second Opinion's overseas offices for a consultation.

The only other telemedicine network that exists in Israel is run by the voluntary organization Ezra Le'Marpeh, based in Bnei Brak, but this service is only for urgent cases, and not for anyone who wants a second opinion.

"We expect that there will be commercial competitors, but we have a real edge," Halevy concludes. "We will soon have consultants in three of America's top 10 medical centers, and we have offices around the world. So any others will be way behind us."

A special bonus to subscribers will be an additional service aimed at the elderly and chronically ill. People will have video cameras hooked up in their home, and qualified nurses will be able to take their blood pressure on an electrocardiogram by remote control. It will also be possible to monitor patients' taking of medications: they will see the drug container on the screen and OK it.

"Many complications occur when confused patients take the wrong drug or take the right one too often. This service will eliminate this problem for subscribers," Halevy says.

When men react violently to pregnancy

Health Scan



By Post Health Reporter

Pregnancy is not always a time of bright and expectant dreams. For women who are regular victims of family violence, these nine months can be a nightmare. Although there are no formal statistics on this phenomenon in Israel, it does exist, according to reports in the field.

Menaheem Fisher and Rivka Levkovic of Kupat Holim Clalit's women's health center in Kiryat Shmona sound an alarm on this subject in a recent issue of *Harefuah*, the journal of the Israel Medical Association.

Given the increasing reports of violence in the family and growing numbers of women murdered by their partners, the public health and social welfare systems would be well advised to pay attention.

Foreign experts quoted by the researchers suggest that while wifebeaters often continue to be violent when their spouses are pregnant, some men suddenly become violent when a baby is due. This is triggered by "jealousy of the fetus, anger at it, or a violent reaction to pregnancy itself."

Studies show that pregnant women are more likely to be attacked as the pregnancy progresses; one piece of research showed that some husbands became more violent during pregnancy than at other times.

Obviously getting a beating while carrying a baby can cause death, serious harm, bleeding, infection and premature labor. But because hormonal changes cause an increase in the volume of a pregnant woman's blood, signs of hemorrhage due to violence – which ordinarily can cause a marked decrease in blood pressure – may not show up. Physical evidence may not reflect the amount of damage to the woman or baby, and there are reports of serious harm being



After a beating, physical evidence may not reflect the amount of damage done to the woman or the fetus. (James Levine)

caused without even a sign on the woman's body. In many cases, the wifebeater concentrates on parts of the body covered by clothing to hit, scratch, and even stab out cigarettes on them.

Since women are particularly vulnerable during pregnancy, most don't file complaints against their oppressors. As a result, hospital staff who suspect pregnant women are the victims of family violence should ask sensitive, subtle questions such as: "I don't know if this is relevant in your case, but since so many women reach this emergency room with signs of family violence, can you tell me if this is your problem? Were you ever physically hurt by someone who is important to you? Are you afraid of someone at home?"

The Clalit researchers conclude that the responsible authorities should discuss and prepare for passage in the Knesset a bill relating to the responsibility to report suspected violence, despite the fact that some regard this as an invasion of privacy.

"There are two victims of family violence during pregnancy: the woman and the fetus," states the report. "It seems that the medical system is not sufficiently prepared to deal with this serious problem and not aware of its true dimensions. Recognizing the problem, with its special characteristics, in Israeli society and collecting data about it will make solutions possible."

CANCER CURE – IN MICE
Two intravenous drugs that

work by cutting off the blood supply to tumors and that have been shown to cure cancer in mice, will be tested on humans in a year. Angiostatin and endostatin – called anti-angiogenesis drugs – are the result of a 30-year research process that began when Dr. Judah Folkman of Harvard University and Boston's Children's Hospital reasoned that tumors cannot grow or spread without a steady blood supply.

Folkman, who was in Israel two years ago to receive a prize from the Lautenberg Center for General and Tumor Immunology at the Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical School, called the treatment "very promising," but urged caution, saying the success might not carry over to humans. "If you have cancer and

you are a mouse, we can treat you," Folkman said.

Some of his colleagues were openly enthusiastic. "I am putting nothing on higher priority than getting this into clinical trials," said Dr. Richard Klausner, director of the US National Cancer Institute.

But others were cooler: "I am really skeptical that Folkman will be curing patients with these drugs," said Dr. Mark Ratain of the University of Chicago. "It will be wonderful if that happens – oncologists will be looking for jobs if it's that simple."

Stories about the drug published in *The New York Times* caused the stock value of Entremed Inc., the Rockville, Maryland company founded to develop the anti-angiogenesis drugs, to jump from \$12 a share to \$85 in a few days.

MDA DUSTS OFF IMAGE
Magen David Adom personnel have started wearing real uniforms that will give them the image of other rescue forces like the police, firemen and Israel Defense Forces.

The upper part is a white shirt with an MDA symbol on the back and on the left pocket, as well as a sign of their MDA region on their left sleeve, with blue trousers that have many pockets. Until now, clothing worn by MDA workers has not been recognizable, except for a sleeveless vest worn over street clothes.

The name of each staffer is worn on a tag on their right shirt pocket, as well as a description of his or her job: medic, paramedic, blood collector and so on. They are also permitted to wear any ribbons and other citations they received during their military service. Blood service workers have also gotten new clothing: a long coat for lab workers and short ones for those who collect blood.

MDA says it aimed to improve the look of its employees and its own image and to increase pride in the blood-collection, rescue and ambulance service organization. The uniform could help legitimize MDA's current fight to get recognition from the government as a rescue service of equal status with the firefighters, police and IDF. These receive special duty pay that the MDA union is seeking.

Rock away the emotional burden of dementia

By TOM RICEY

As the cradle soothes babies, rocking chairs can roll away anxiety and depression in nursing home residents who have dementia. This can be accomplished simply by rocking back and forth in a rocking chair for an hour or two a day. Patients who rocked the most in a research study even requested less medication to ease their daily aches and pains, according to a study by nurses at the University of Rochester in New York, their balance also improves.

"There's a stereotype of older people on a porch happily going back and forth in rocking chairs," says nurse researcher Nancy Watson. "It turns out the activity really does bring some peace of mind to many folks. It's been very well documented with infants that a gentle repetitive motion has a soothing effect. We've shown the same is true in an older population that's emotionally distressed."

In a study funded by the New York State Department of Health, Watson studied 25 nursing home residents diagnosed as having dementia, either due to Alzheimer's disease or other causes. Nurses at Rochester's Kirkhaven nursing home closely monitored patient behavior for six weeks. They looked at the behavior of residents who rocked and then had the rocking mechanisms on their chairs disabled.

During the weeks they rocked, most residents' psychological and emotional well-being improved, says Watson, an assistant professor in the University's School of Nursing and an expert in gerontological nursing research.

"Nursing aides noticed the most dramatic effect right away. The chair served to calm the residents down when they were emotionally upset. The aide helped the residents to the chair and got them rocking, and it calmed the patient immediately," Watson reported. In the study, residents rocked for anywhere from half an hour to two and a half hours each day for five days a week. While not all the residents improved, those who rocked the most improved the most.

Behaviors like crying or expressions of anxiety, tension, and



Chair that calms the elderly (Harold Guthmann)

depression dropped in the 11 patients who rocked more than 80 minutes a day. Such behaviors fell anywhere from slightly, to almost one-third. Several patients also requested less pain medication during the weeks they rocked, Watson says; generally, those who rocked the most asked for pain medication less often, ranging from a very slight reduction to two or three fewer requests per week. Zealous rockers also improved their balance, a huge concern among the elderly population, where a fall often leads to a drastically scaled-back quality of life.

Watson says it's possible that the gentle rocking motion helped stimulate the residents' vestibular system, which helps maintain balance. Residents used platform-style rocking chairs that work like conventional rockers but have a super-stable, immobile base and move back and forth very easily. Aides gradually introduced residents to the chairs, encouraging but not pushing residents to rock.

Rocking-chair therapy could become an important treatment tool for the many nursing home residents who suffer from some form of dementia. "Rocking provides a worthwhile, mild form of exercise for these people," says Watson. "It would be difficult to take every patient for a walk, for instance, but residents can rock themselves, and many are happy to do so, given a little encouragement. This is an easy step to improve the quality of life for people in nursing homes." (University of Rochester News Service)

Genetically engineered potatoes could prevent infectious diseases

By MAGGIE FOX and ELAINE FRIEDLANDER

Raw potatoes may offer the first edible vaccine for humans, according to US researchers who performed the first-ever clinical trials of a vaccine genetically implanted in a food. People who ate genetically engineered potatoes showed an immune response to a strain of *E. coli* bacteria that causes diarrhea.

Scientists are hoping to wipe out enteric diseases such as diarrhea and cholera by using vaccines grown in specific foods that need no refrigeration. Potentially at stake in the two remaining phases of human clinical trials is the health of millions of children in developing nations.

The trials, reported in the May issue of the journal *Nature Medicine*, are still in an initial safety phase, but are the first to show that plant-based vaccines can work in people.

Charles Amten and colleagues at Cornell University's Boyce Institute for Plant Research and at the University of Maryland found that potatoes could be genetically engineered to make part of a toxin secreted by the strain of *E. coli* bacteria that causes diarrhea.

Dr. Carol Tackett of the University of Maryland took things a step farther and tested humans. Eleven healthy volunteers

ate bites of raw genetically engineered potato. Three other people ate normal, raw potatoes. In 10 of the 11 volunteers who got the potato vaccine, levels of antibodies in the blood rose, with intestinal antibody levels rising in four of them. None experienced any serious side effects.

A nurse peeled the potatoes just before they were eaten, because potato skin sometimes contains a compound that imparts a bitter taste and can cause nausea and stomach upset. The potatoes were then cut into small, uniform pieces and weighed into 50-gram and 100-gram doses. Each person received three doses of either 50 grams or 100 grams of potato over a three-week period, at 0, seven and 21 days. The dosage size varied in order to evaluate any side effects from eating raw potatoes.

Parts of proteins like these are often all the body needs to be primed to recognize an invader and attack it. When researchers at Tulane University fed the potato to mice, the animals showed a strong immune response.

"Edible vaccines offer exciting possibilities for significantly reducing the burden of diseases like hepatitis and diarrhea, particularly in the developing world, where storing and administering vaccines are often major problems," NIAD's Dr. Anthony Fauci added.



Plant-based vaccines could prove vital to the health of millions of children in developing countries. (David Rubinger)

National Institute of Allergies and Infectious Diseases (NIAD), which oversaw the study, said in a statement.

"Edible vaccines offer exciting possibilities for significantly reducing the burden of diseases like hepatitis and diarrhea, particularly in the developing world, where storing and administering vaccines are often major problems," NIAD's Dr. Anthony Fauci added.

Dr. Regina Rabinovich, head of the US National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases' Vaccine and Treatment Evaluation Program, explained that high costs, transportation logistics and the lack of refrigeration for vaccines can thwart vaccination programs in these countries. "This trial is a milestone on the road to creating inexpensive vaccines that might be particularly useful in immunizing

people in developing countries," she said. "The hope is that edible vaccines could be grown in many of the developing countries where they would actually be used."

In February, Loma Linda University scientists reported they had genetically engineered potatoes to produce antigens against cholera, and said they survived cooking. They tested their cooked potato

vaccine in mice and said they saw no reason why it would not work in people.

Western tourists commonly contract the bacterium in developing countries, but it is much more serious for the inhabitants of those countries. In fact, World Health Organization studies show that diarrhea caused by bacteria is a major cause of infant mortality worldwide, with nearly 3 million deaths a year. Yet there is no cost-effective vaccine available to prevent this problem, says Amten.

Meanwhile, Julian Ma and colleagues at Guy's Hospital in London claim they have genetically engineered tobacco plants to carry antigens (molecules that stimulate an immune response against a specific agent) to *Streptococcus mutans*, a common oral bacteria which causes cavities.

They first killed all germs in the mouths of volunteers using a mouthwash, then wiped the vaccine on their teeth. People who got the tobacco vaccine were protected against the bug for four months, while volunteers who got fake vaccines were reinfected after 58 days. They said their approach might work against other bugs that infect the mucous membranes of the body – including the nose, throat and intestines.

(Reuters and Cornell University News Service)

Marlins snap losing streak

ST. LOUIS (AP) — The Florida Marlins started out looking more like defending World Series champions than a franchise in disarray Friday night, setting a team record with nine consecutive hits in the first inning an 8-7 victory over the St. Louis Cardinals.

Florida scored seven runs in the first off rookie Brady Raggio (0-1) with three players on the bench awaiting a reported trade to the Dodgers and a fourth, Gary Sheffield, already in Los Angeles considering whether to waive his no-trade clause — the only hangup to the deal being completed (See story, Page 16).

Florida also snapped a five-game losing streak, overcoming two homers by Ray Lankford.

Braves 3, Astros 2
Eddie Perez renewed visiting Atlanta's home-run spree, connecting twice and driving in three runs in a victory over Houston.

Dennis Martinez got his first save since July 11, 1993, and his second since 1980. He gave up one run in 1 1/3 innings for his seventh career save.

Atlanta had its 25-game, home-run streak stopped Thursday night against St. Louis. The streak is a National League record and tied the major league mark.

Reds 11, Cubs 3
Reggie Sanders drove in four runs with a three-run homer and a walk during a nine-run second inning as Cincinnati won at home.

The Reds sent 14 batters to the plate that inning, with eight of the runs charged to Jeremi Gonzalez (3-4). Cincinnati hadn't scored nine runs in an inning since May 16, 1993, against Colorado.

Brewers 8, Rockies 5
Mark Loretta went 3-for-3 with two RBIs and Dave Nilsson had a pair of RBI doubles as Milwaukee made its Coors Field debut with a victory over slumping Colorado.

Diamondbacks 6, Pirates 1
In Phoenix, Jeff Suppan threw a four-hitter and Matt Williams hit a two-run homer as the Arizona Diamondbacks beat the Pittsburgh Pirates.

Padres 7, Phillies 6
Greg Vaughn hit a three-run homer in the seventh inning — his fifth shot in seven games — as San Diego rallied for a home win.

Giants 3, Mets 2
Orel Hersher pitched seven innings of four-hit ball and Jeff Kent doubled home the go-ahead run in the seventh as San Francisco notched its eighth win in nine home games.

AMERICAN LEAGUE
Twins 7, Yankees 6
Host Minnesota battered Andy Pettitte for the second time in less than a week, sending New York to consecutive losses for the first time since an 0-3 start.

Pettitte (5-4), who lost 8-1 at Minnesota last Saturday, gave up all seven runs and 12 hits in seven innings.

Eric Milton (3-4), acquired by Minnesota from New York as part of the Chuck Knoblauch trade, allowed five runs and eight hits in five-plus innings. Milton lost to the Yankees 7-0 last Sunday.

Marty Cordova drove in three runs as Minnesota extended a winning streak to four for the first time since last September.

Tigers 8, Athletics 3
Paul Bako keyed a five-run Detroit sixth with his first major league homer and Detroit rallied to a home win.

Blue Jays 9, Angels 1
Pat Hentgen and Chris Carpenter combined on a three-hitter as Toronto won at home.

Hentgen (5-3) was perfect until Norberto Martin singled with one

out in the sixth inning. Hentgen gave up two hits in seven innings, struck out five and walked one. Tony Fernandez, who homered, and Darin Fletcher each drove in two runs for Toronto.

Devil Rays 4, Orioles 1
Wilson Alvarez pitched seven strong innings and won for the first time in five starts as Tampa Bay won on the road.

Eric Davis hit a home run for the Orioles, helping Baltimore tie a team record by homering in its 17th consecutive game.

Red Sox 5, Royals 2
Lou Merloni homered in his first at-bat at Fenway Park and Tim Wakefield won his fifth consecutive start.

White Sox 6, Mariners 3
Albert Belle hit a three-run homer and Greg Norton continued his hot hitting with a double and single as Chicago won at home.

Indians 3, Rangers 2 (14)
Brian Giles ended a 1-for-26 slump with a leadoff homer in the bottom of the 14th inning.

Giles ended a tense, four-hour game with a 422-foot homer to center off Alan Levine (0-1). It was the first run since the Rangers' Will Clark tied it at 2 with an RBI single in the sixth.

Rick Krivda (2-0) worked one scoreless inning for the victory, the Indians' second straight after losing six in a row.

National League				
East Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
Atlanta	31	11	.738	—
New York	19	18	.514	9½
Philadelphia	20	19	.513	9½
Montreal	15	25	.375	15
Florida	14	28	.333	17
Central Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
Houston	25	15	.625	—
Chicago	23	18	.561	2½
Milwaukee	21	18	.538	3½
Cincinnati	21	18	.538	4½
St. Louis	19	20	.487	5½
Pittsburgh	19	22	.463	6½
West Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
San Diego	27	14	.659	—
San Francisco	24	18	.571	3½
Los Angeles	19	22	.463	8
Colorado	17	25	.405	10½
Arizona	10	31	.244	17

Thursday's AL results: Minnesota 2, Boston 1 (2); Kansas City 10, Tampa Bay 2; Detroit 8, Oakland 3; Toronto 5, Anaheim 4; Cleveland 5, Baltimore 4; Chicago White Sox 5, Seattle 3; Texas 7, N.Y. Yankees 1 (1).
Thursday's NL results: San Francisco 4, Montreal 1 (1); San Francisco 2, Montreal 0 (2); Chicago Cubs 9, Colorado 7; San Diego 3, N.Y. Mets 1 (1); San Diego 6, N.Y. Mets 2 (2); Cincinnati 11, Florida 8; Pittsburgh 7, Houston 2; Atlanta 7, St. Louis 3; Philadelphia 4, Los Angeles 6; Arizona 6, Milwaukee 1.



INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Having Larry Bird as coach gives the Indiana Pacers a w e a p o n they've never had in the playoffs, according to Reggie Miller.

"He's instilled belief amongst the players. His hard-work attitude as a play-

er, he's brought that to the coaching ranks.

Every time he takes the floor, he's very well prepared," Miller said Friday. "Practices are very crisp. There's no downtime or lag period. He's very professional about everything he does."

Bird, no stranger to leading the Chicago Bulls and Michael Jordan from his playing days, coaches against them in the first playoff meeting ever between the teams.

The best-of-7 Eastern Conference finals begins today in Chicago, where the Pacers will head after practicing here again today (Game 1 at 3:30 pm EDT).

The Western Conference finals between the Los Angeles Lakers and the Utah Jazz began last night.

Miller and many of his teammates are in the conference finals for the third time in five years, while the Bulls are there for the eighth time in 10 years.

The Pacers lost their previous trips in the conference finals in seven games, to New York in 1994 and to Orlando the following year.

"The Knicks and the Magic were just as special, but there's probably more significance because you're playing Chicago, and they're defending champions," Miller said. "It's going to be a tough series."

Bird has warned his players that there is more to the Bulls than Jordan, who is averaging 32.1 points in the playoffs.

"Michael brings fear every time he touches the ball, but there's other players there too," Bird said. "Scottie Pippen is probably the second best player in the league. (Dennis) Rodman is the best rebounder, so they've got a lot of weapons."

"The Pacers are confident this is a better team than the ones that lost in their previous trips to the con-

ference finals.

"Maybe we were missing pieces, missing effort, missing some talent," Antonio Davis said of those series. "I kind of think we've got it all now. It's just a matter of going out and making sure you don't waste opportunity."

"This is definitely the most confident team I've been on, the deepest team I've played on," said Rik Smits, who is one of six Pacers with the team for at least one of its previous conference finals appearances.

Rodman is averaging 16.1 rebounds in the playoffs, including more than six a game on the offensive end.

"He's tough. He always seems to be in the right spot at the right time. He does a good job of tipping the ball to himself," Smits said.

A key matchup will be between Jordan and Miller, who will be defending each other for much of the series.

"We're obviously going to give as much help (to Miller) as we possibly can against Michael," Bird said. "We'll have guys around him, but as far as running down and double-teaming all the time, no we're not going to spread our defense."

Bird expects big contributions from his bench in the series, which opens with two games at Chicago's United Center where the Pacers defeated the Bulls in their last meeting during the regular season.

"It's not Reggie against Michael. Everybody can talk about it, but it is our team against theirs. If our team plays well, if everybody contributes, we have an opportunity to win," Bird said.

"Our bench has got to be strong. We know they're going to be tough. They're going to defense us very well," Miller is confident.

"If I remember right, they didn't go 82-0. Anything is possible," he said. "We feel that we've got a great shot. We've got players on this team that are willing to step up and hit big shots and play great defense. We were 2-2 with them during the regular season, so why not?"

Richmond to Wizards
Sacramento Kings guard Mitch Richmond and forward Otis Thorpe were traded to the Washington Wizards for forward Chris Webber on Thursday.

Capitals head to East finals



WASHINGTON (AP) — The Washington Capitals' anemic offense got the goal it needed to win the game, then left the rest to Olaf Kolzig to win the series.

Kolzig made 29 saves for his second consecutive shutout and extended his scoreless run to 1:49:06 as the Capitals advanced to the Eastern Conference finals for the second time in franchise history, defeating the Ottawa Senators 3-0 Friday night to win the series in five games.

For the second straight game, the Capitals played as if they didn't have to try very hard on

offense after scoring one goal — such was their confidence that Kolzig would keep another clean slate. Washington had won Game 4 by a 2-0 score — the second one was an empty-netter — despite getting outshot 36-11.

In this game, the Senators again applied all the pressure they could muster with a 29-21 shots advantage, but Kolzig was impenetrable and the Capitals' defense helped out by negating Ottawa's speed in the offensive zone.

The Capitals' winning goal came from Joe Juneau at 2:39 of the second when he successfully converted a rebound three seconds after a power play expired. Phil Housley, a healthy scratch for the three previous games, set up the goal with a slap shot from the blue

line, and Brian Bellows also got an assist.

Ottawa Washington 0 1 2-0
First Period-None. Second Period-1. Washington, Juneau 3 (Bellows, Housley, 2:39). Third Period-2. Washington, Goulet 7 (Juneau, 18:34 pp). Washington, Johnson 2 (Tuckman, Penick, 19:42 pp). Goalsies-Ottawa, Rhodes; Washington, Kolzig 8-3, A-19, 40.

NHL Playoff Glimpse
SECOND ROUND (Best-of-7)
Thursday
Buffalo 3, Montreal 1 (Buffalo wins series 4-0)
Detroit 5, St. Louis 2 (Detroit leads series 3-1)
Friday
Washington 3, Ottawa 0 (Washington wins series 4-1)
Yesterday
Edmonton at Dallas (Dallas leads series 3-1)
Today
St. Louis at Detroit

Rios glides into final against Costa

ROME (AP) — A confident Marcelo Rios took less than an hour yesterday to defeat last year's French Open champion, Gustavo Kuerten, and claim a spot in the Italian Open final.

Using precise, on-the-line shots, Rios took control of the match from the start. He won the first set 6-0, in just 22 minutes, and then went on to take the second 7-5.

In today's final at the Foro Italico, Rios faces clay-court specialist Albert Costa, who defeated fellow Spaniard Alberto Berasategui in three closely contested sets yesterday.

Costa took 1 hour 49 minutes to beat the No. 12 seed 6-3, 4-6, 6-3.

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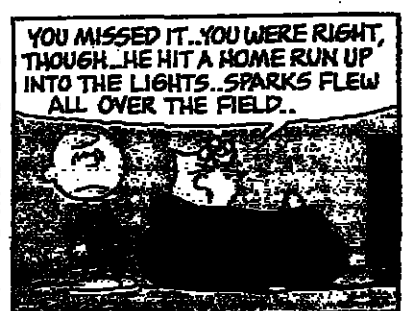
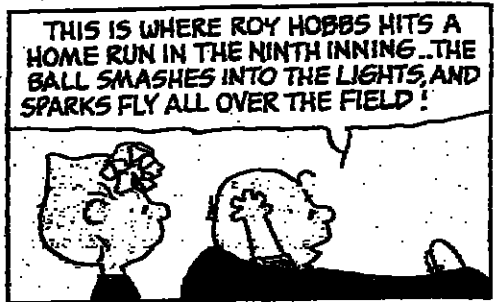
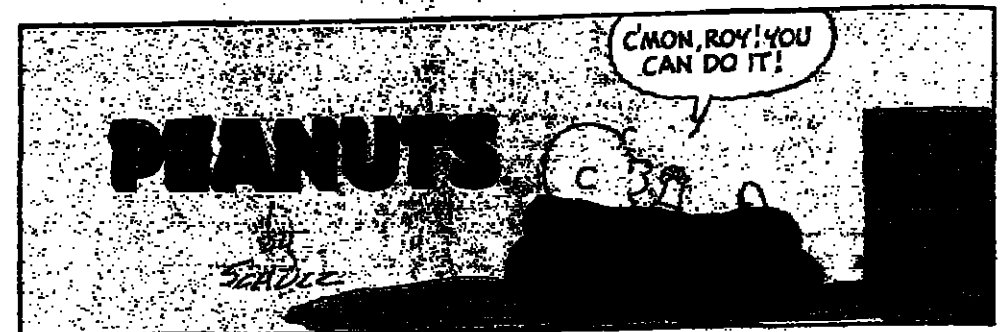
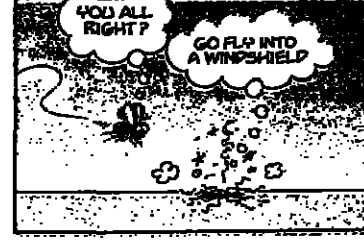
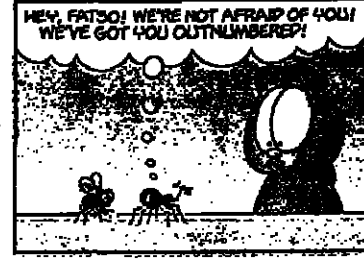
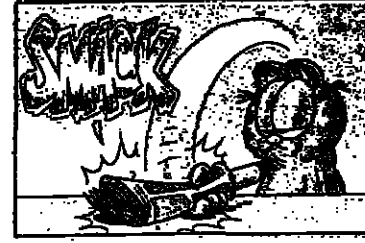
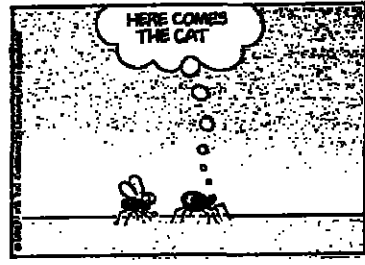
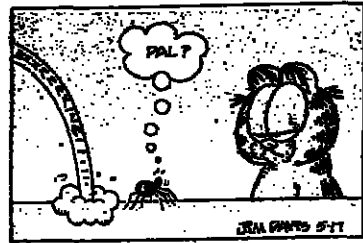
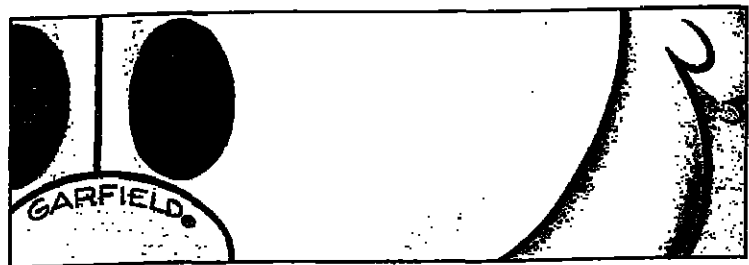
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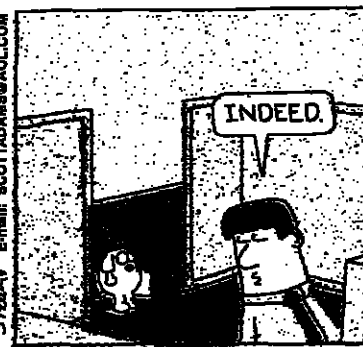
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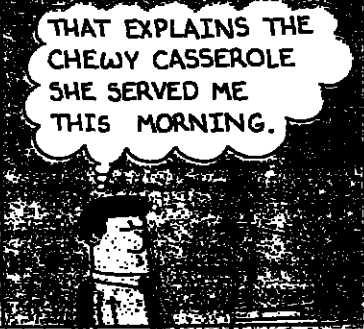
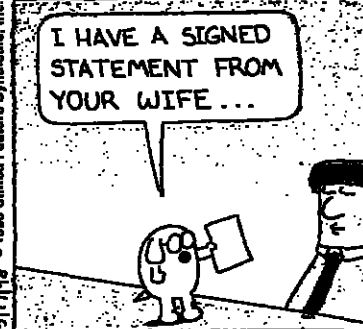
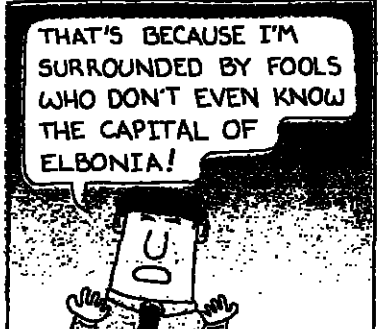
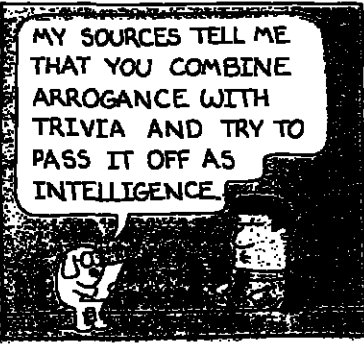
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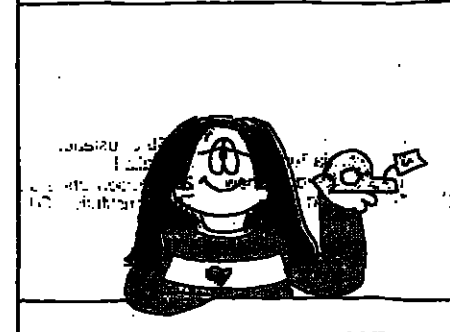
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CATHY

BY CATHY GUISEWITE

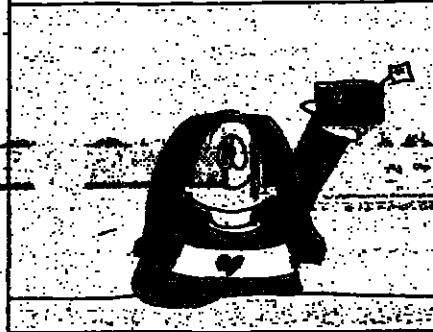
THEN: NEEDED A ROLL OF TAPE.
BOUGHT A ROLL OF TAPE.



NOW: NEEDED A ROLL OF TAPE.
WENT TO THE OFFICE SUPERSTORE
AND BOUGHT \$300 OF
OFFICE SUPPLIES.



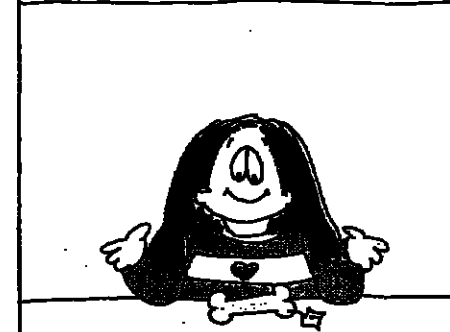
THEN: NEEDED A BAR OF SOAP.
BOUGHT A BAR OF SOAP.



NOW: NEEDED A BAR OF SOAP.
WENT TO THE BATH SUPERSTORE
AND BOUGHT \$400 OF LOTIONS,
SOAPS, SPONGES AND ACCESSORIES
TO REDECORATE MY BATHROOM.



THEN: NEEDED A DOG BONE.
BOUGHT A DOG BONE.



NOW: NEEDED A DOG BONE.
WENT TO THE PET SUPERSTORE
AND BOUGHT \$175 OF DOG COMBS,
BRUSHES, FLEA TREATMENTS,
TOYS, BONES, SNACKS, A BED,
AND AN ERGONOMICALLY CORRECT
CANINE FEEDING SYSTEM.



THEN:
NEEDED A
BOOK.
BOUGHT
A BOOK.



NOW: NEEDED A
BOOK. WENT TO THE
BOOK SUPERSTORE
AND BOUGHT \$200 OF
BOOKS, A DECAF
LATTE, BAG OF BISCOTTI
AND A TRAVEL MUG.

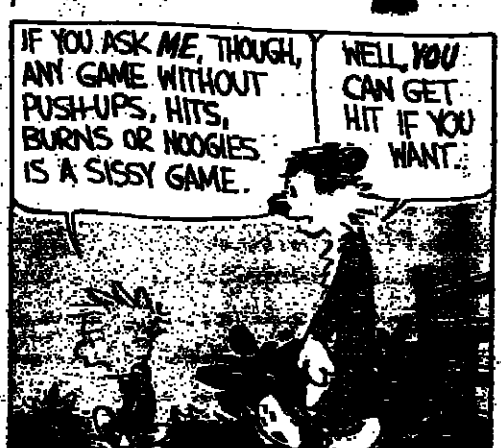
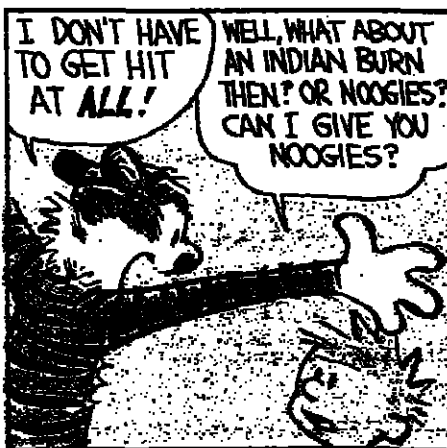
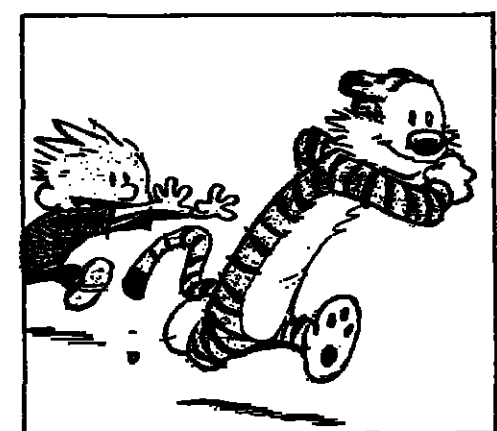


HERE STANDS ANOTHER
INDEPENDENT, DRIVEN TO FINAN-
CIAL RUIN BY THE GIANT CHAINS.



calvin and hobbes

by WATSON



Doonesbury

G. B. IRUDEAU

